CANONSBURG CENTENNIAL

Eighteen Hundred Two
Nineteen Hundred Two

Addresses in Commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the

BOROUGH OF CANONSBURG

Washington County
Pennsylvania

EDITED FOR THE COMMITTEE BY
BLAINE EWING, L. L. B.

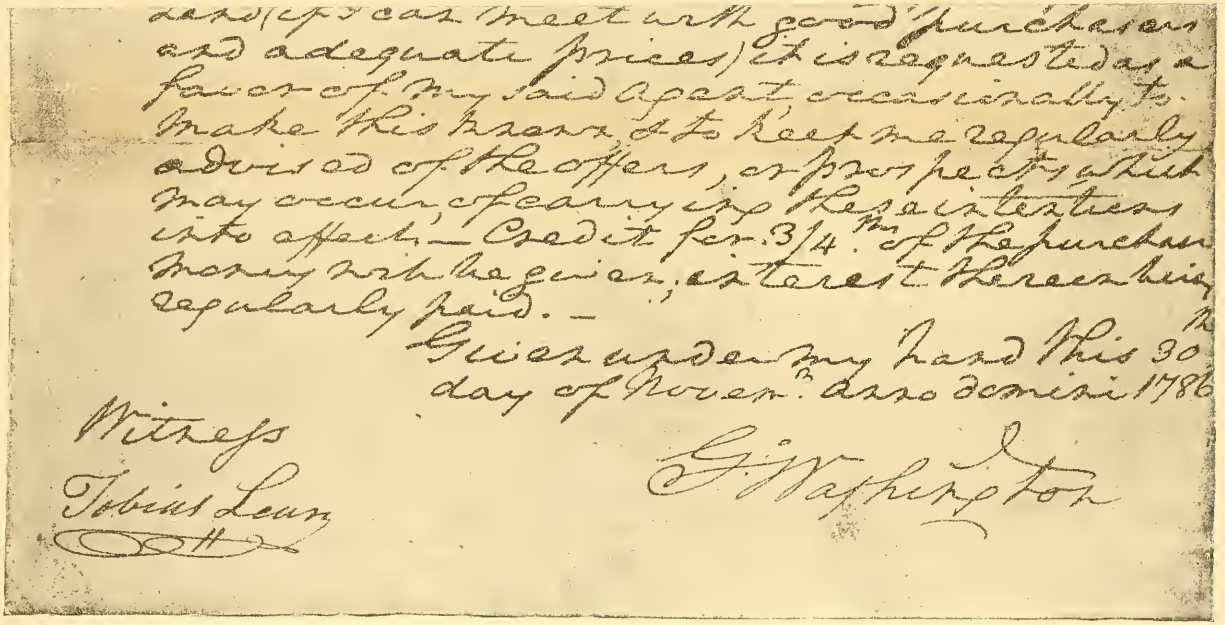
Copy 2

F159
.C18C2
COPY 2

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS,
Two Copies Received
DEC 7 1903
Copyright Entry
Dec. 7- 1903
CLASS a XXa No.
74058
COPY A.

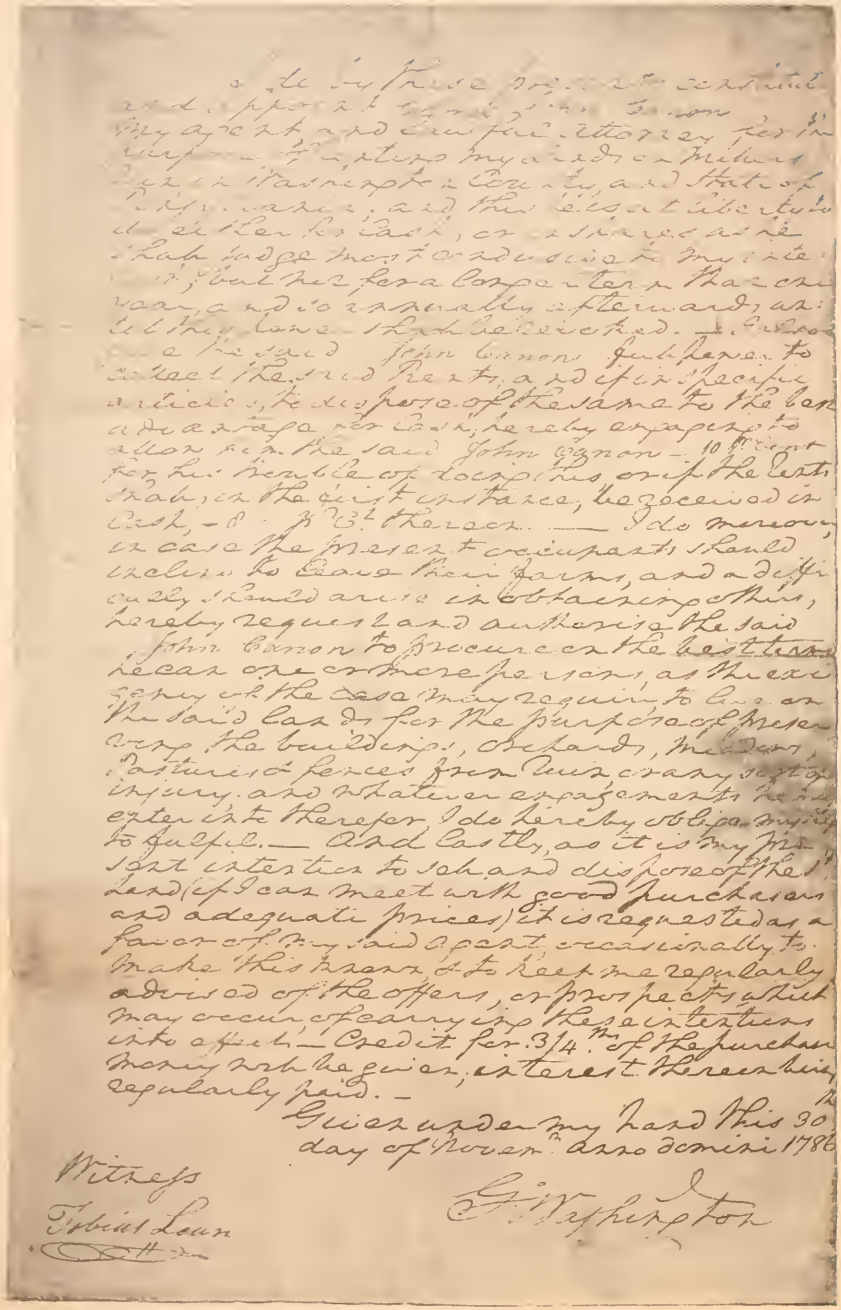
COPYRIGHT 1903 BY BLAINE EWING

Pittsburgh Printing Company
Pittsburgh, Pa.

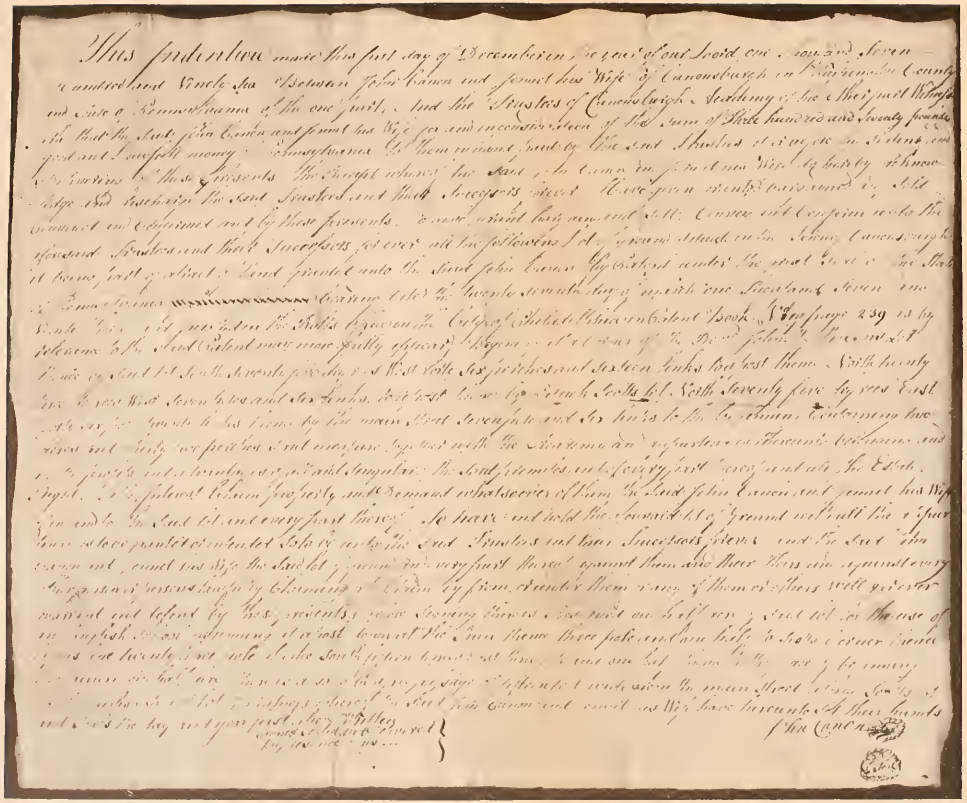


POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON, IN HIS OWN HANDWRITING, TO JOHN CANON

HALF TONE FROM THE ORIGINAL



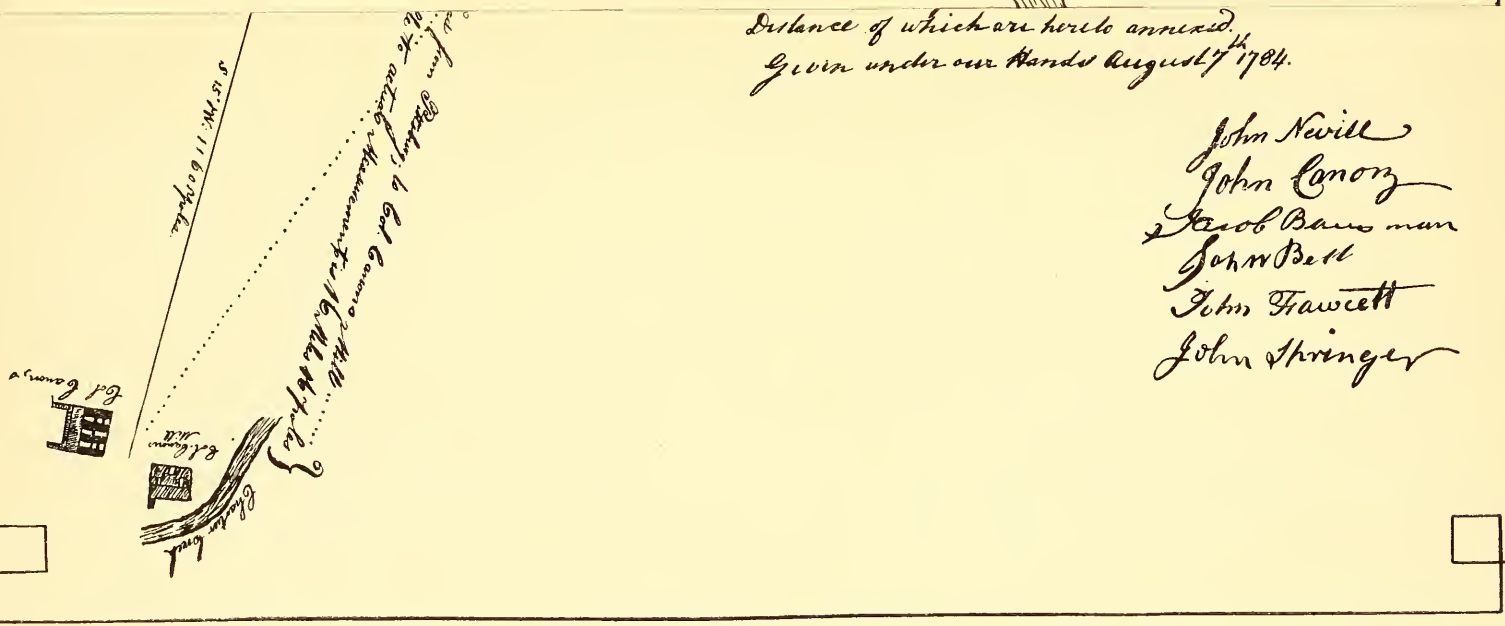
POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON IN HIS OWN HANDWRITING, TO JOHN CANON
HALF TONE FROM THE ORIGINAL



INDENTURE OF JOHN CANON TO THE TRUSTEES OF CANONSBURG ACADEMY FOR THE OLD STONE COLLEGE

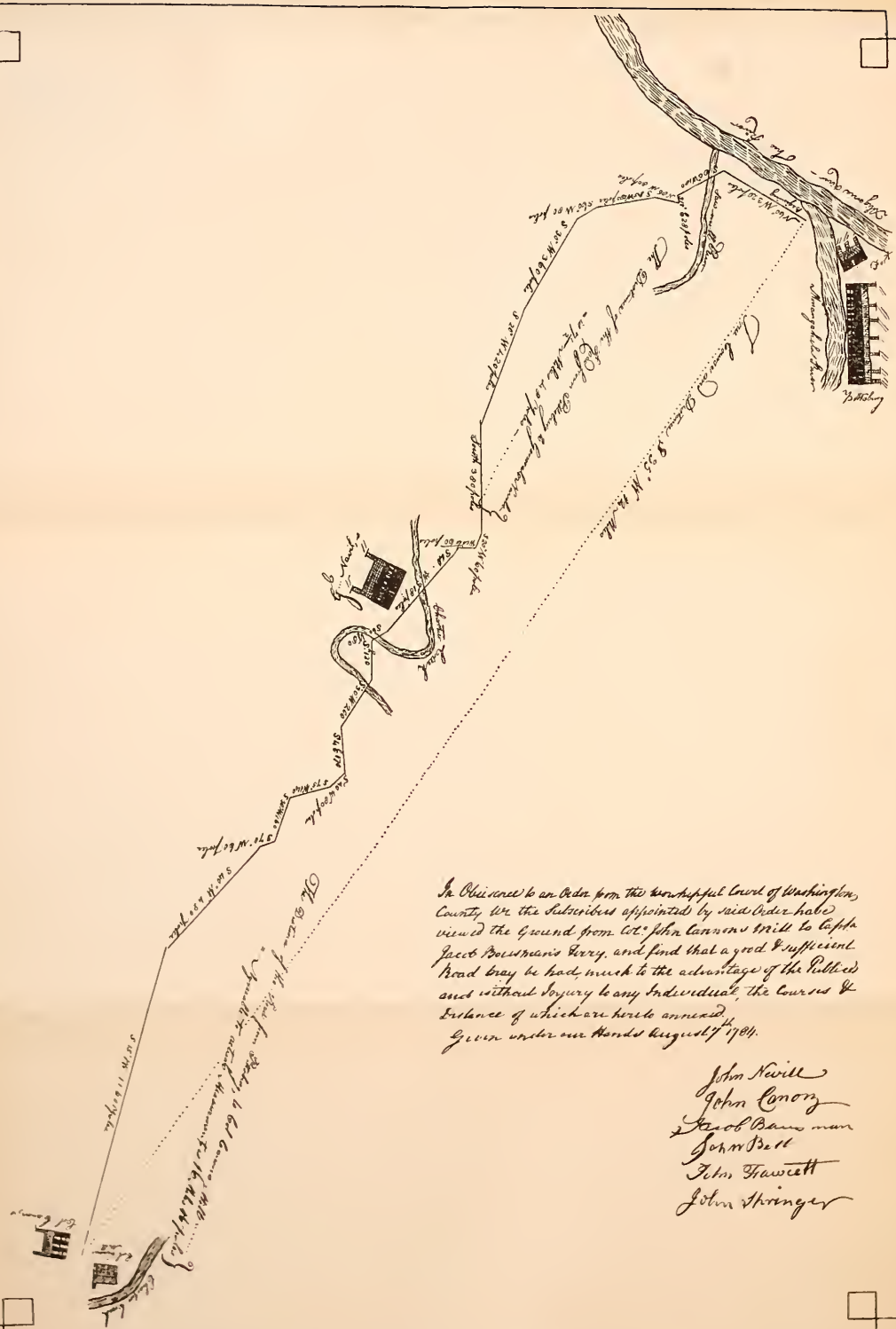
THE LOT WAS GIVEN AND BUILDING STARTED IN THE SUMMER 1791 BUT THE DEED WAS NOT DELIVERED UNTIL 1799

Half Tone from the original. See page 130



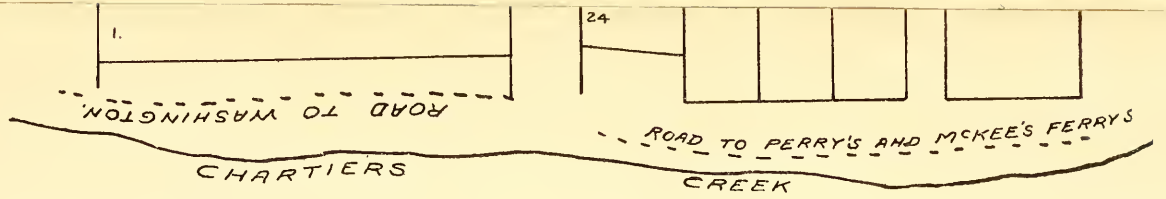
PLOT OF ROAD FROM JOHN CANON'S MILL TO JACOB BAUSMAN'S FERRY OPPOSITE PITTSBURG. TO WHICH IS ADDED THE REPORT OF VIEWERS WITH FAC SIMILE SIGNATURES. ACCURATELY TRACED FROM THE ORIGINAL AT No. 1, JUNE TERM 1784 RECORDS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

By Walter Vaughan. See page 144


In Obedience to an Order from the Worshipful Court of Washington County We the Subscribers appointed by said Order have viewed the Ground from Col. John Cannons Mill to Capt. Jacob Bausmans Ferry, and find that a good & sufficient Road may be had, much to the advantage of the Publick and without Injury to any Individual, the Courses & Distance of which are here annexed
Given under our Hands August 7th 1784.
John Neville
John Canon
Jacob Bausman
John Bell
John Frazier
John Stringer

PLOT OF ROAD FROM JOHN CANON'S MILL TO JACOB BAUSMAN'S FERRY OPPOSITE PITTSBURG. TO WHICH IS ADDED THE REPORT OF VIEWERS WITH FAC SIMILE SIGNATURES. ACCURATELY TRACED FROM THE ORIGINAL AT No. 1. JUNE TERM 1784 RECORDS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

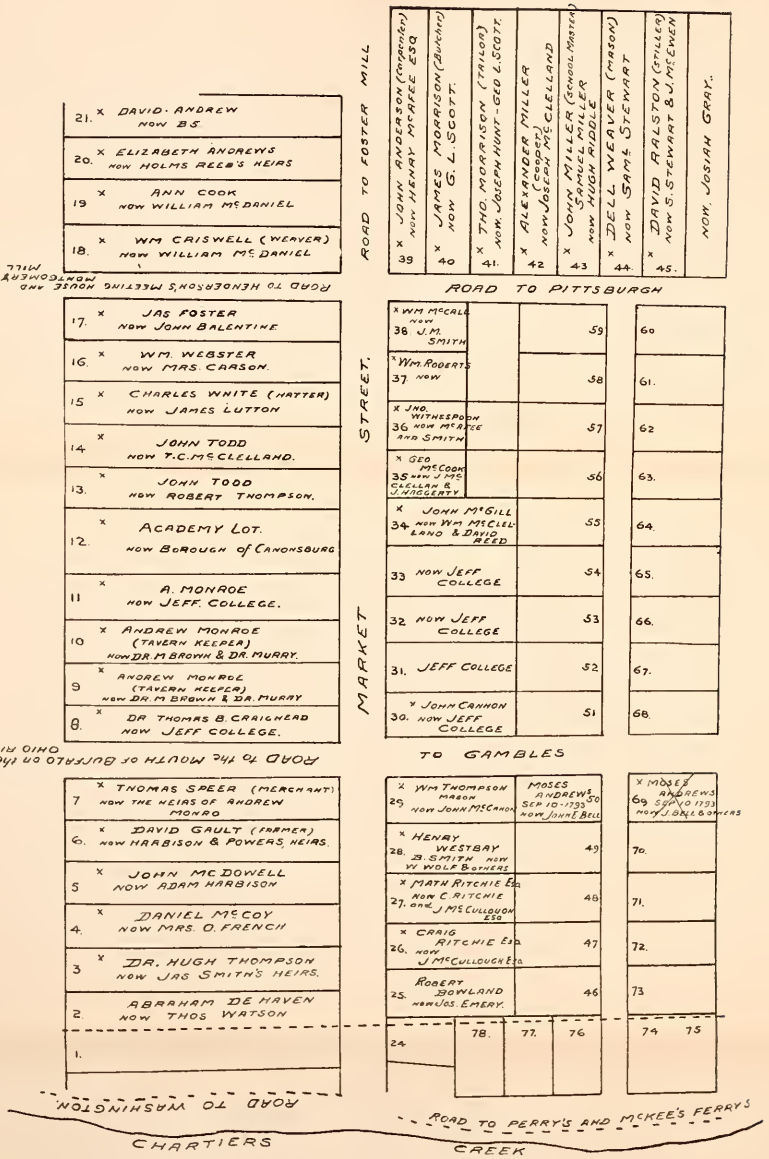
By Walter Vaughan. See page 144



"A Draught of the Borough of Canonsburg taken from an old plot in the possession of Mrs. Neil and copied acurately from the original. The names of persons inserted in the lots with a x prefixed are as in the original. The other names are the present owners where they are inserted The turnpike now passes where thf dotted line is made through lots 2. 24. 78. 77. 76 &c.

Draughted July 12th 1848

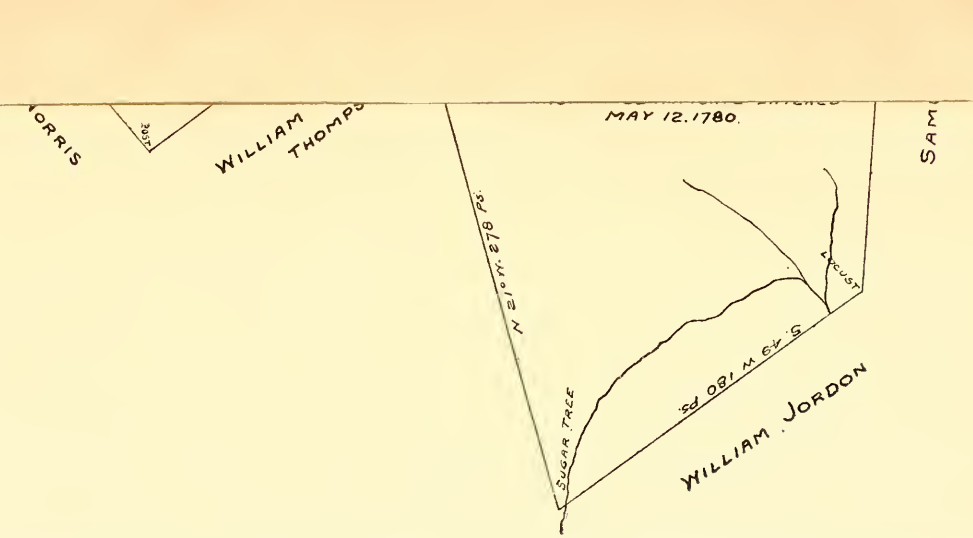
By James McClelland"


ROAD TO FOSTER MILL
ROAD TO HENDERSON'S MEETING HOUSE AND MONTGOMERY'S MILL
MARKET STREET.
ROAD TO PITTSBURGH
ROAD TO THE MOUTH OF BUFFALO ON THE OHIO RIVER
TO GAMBLES
ROAD TO WASHINGTON
CHARTIERS
ROAD TO PERRY'S AND McKEE'S FERRY'S
CREEK
21. DAVID ANDREW NOW BS
20. ELIZABETH ANDREWS NOW HOLMS REED'S HEIRS
19 ANN COOK NOW WILLIAM McDANIEL
18. WM CRISWELL (WEAVER) NOW WILLIAM McDANIEL
17. JAS FOSTER NOW JOHN BALENTINE
16. WM. WEBSTER NOW MRS. CARSON.
15 CHARLES WHITE (HATTER) NOW JAMES LUTTON
14 JOHN TODD NOW T.C. McCLELLAND.
13. JOHN TODD NOW ROBERT THOMPSON.
12. ACADEMY LOT. NOW BOROUGH of CANONSBURG
11 A. MONROE NOW JEFF. COLLEGE.
10 ANDREW MONROE (TAVERN KEEPER) NOW DR. M BROWN & DR. MURRY.
9 ANDREW MONROE (TAVERN KEEPER) NOW DR. M BROWN & DR. MURRY
8. DR THOMAS B. CRAIGHEAD NOW JEFF COLLEGE.
7 THOMAS SPEER (MERCHANT) NOW THE HEIRS OF ANDREW MONRO
6. DAVID GAULT (FARMER) NOW HARBISON & POWERS, HEIRS.
5 JOHN McDOWELL NOW ADAM HARBISON
4. DANIEL McCOY NOW MRS. O. FRENCH
3 DR. HUGH THOMPSON NOW JAS SMITH'S HEIRS.
2. ABRAHAM DE HAVEN NOW THOS WATSON
1.
JOHN ANDERSON (FOUNDER) NOW HENRY McFEE ESQ 39
JAMES MORRISON (BUILDER) NOW G. L. SCOTT. 40
THO MORRISON (TAILOR) NOW JOSEPH HUNT - GEO L. SCOTT. 41.
ALEXANDER MILLER NOW JOSEPH McCLELLAND 42
JOHN MILLER (SCHOOL MASTER) NOW HUGH RIDDLE 43
DELL WEAVER (MASON) NOW SAML STEWART 44.
DAVID RALSTON (STILLER) NOW S. STEWART & J. McEWEN 45.
NOW JOSIAH GRAY.
WM McCALL NOW 38 J.M. SMITH
WM. ROBERTS 37 NOW
JNO. WITHESPOON 36 NOW McAFEE AND SMITH
GEO McCOOK 35 NOW J. McCLELLAN & J. HAGGERTY
JOHN McGILL 34 NOW WM McCLELLAND & DAVID REED
33 NOW JEFF COLLEGE
32 NOW JEFF COLLEGE
31. JEFF COLLEGE
JOHN CANNON 30. NOW JEFF COLLEGE
59 60
58 61.
57 62
56 63.
55 64.
54 65.
53 66.
52 67.
51 68.
WM THOMPSON MASON NOW JOHN McCANON 29
MOSES ANDREWS SURVEY NO 170 SEPT 10-1793 NOW JOHN E. BELL
MOSES ANDREWS SURVEY NO 1733 NOW J. OAT & BROTHERS 69
HENRY WESTBAY 28. J. SMITH NOW W. WOLF BROTHERS
MATH RITCHIE ESQ NOW C. RITCHIE 27. and J. McCULLOUGH ESQ
CRAIG RITCHIE ESQ 26. NOW J. McCULLOUGH ESQ
ROBERT BOWLAND 25. NOW JOS. EMERY.
49 70.
48 71.
47 72.
46 73
24
78. 77. 76
74 75

"A DRAUGHT OF THE BOROUGH OF CANONSBURG TAKEN FROM AN OLD PLOT IN THE POSSESSION OF MAS HEIL AND COPIED ACURATELY FROM THE ORIGINAL. THE NAMES OF PERSONS INSERTED IN THE LOTS WITH A X PREFIXED ARE AS IN THE ORIGINAL THE OTHER NAMES ARE THE PRESENT OWNERS WHERE THEY ARE INSERTED THE TURNPIKE NOW PASSES WHERE THE DOTTED LINE IS MADE THROUGH LOTS 2. 24 78 77. 76 &c.

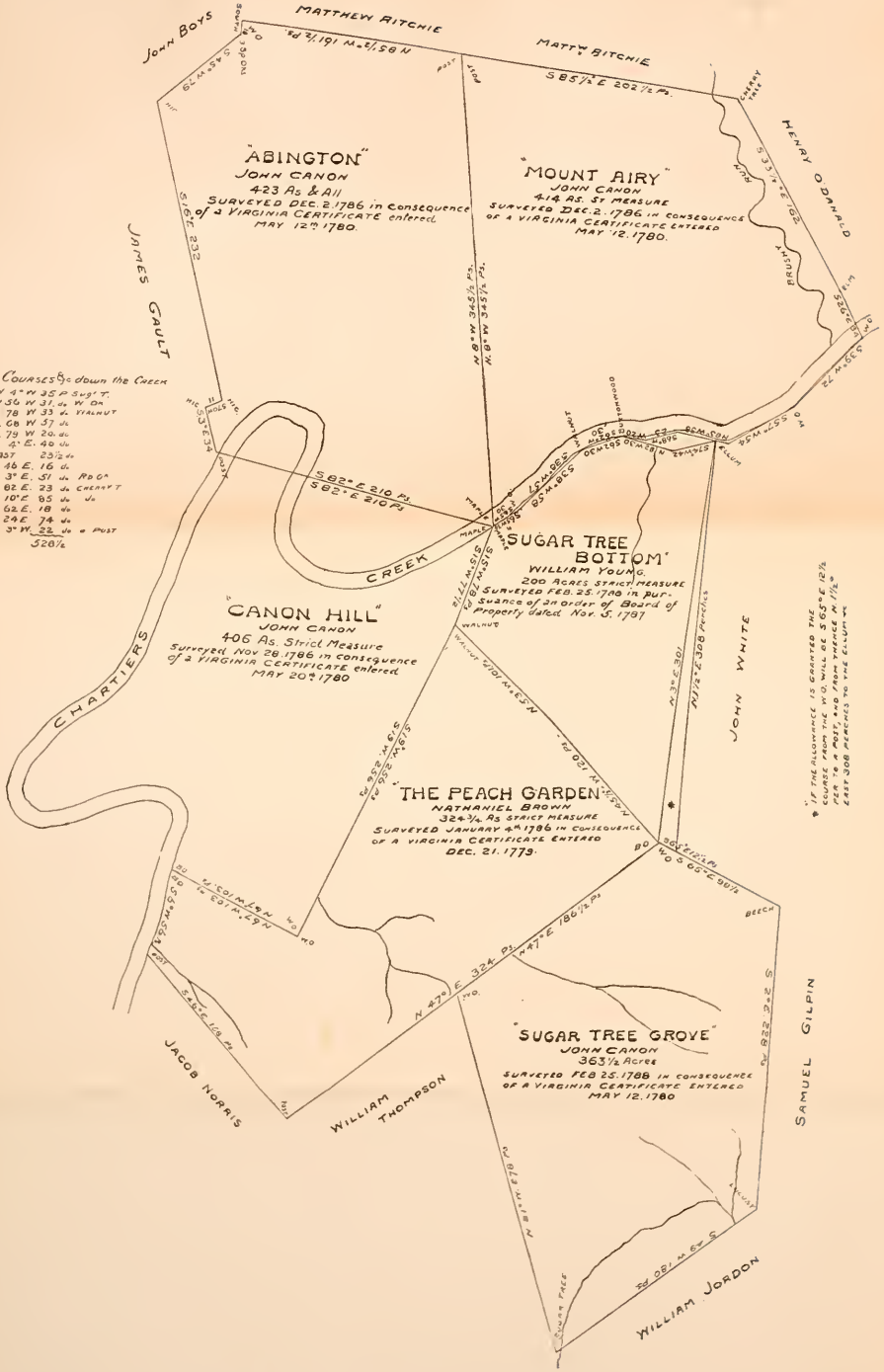
DRAUGHTED JULY 12th 1848

BY James McClelland"



A CONNECTED DRAFT OF THE PATENTS GRANTED TO JOHN CANON WITH ADJOINERS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, AS CERTIFIED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PENNSYLVANIA AT HARRISBURG

COPIED FROM THE ORIGINAL BY J. B. VAUGHAN


John Boys
Matthew Aitchie
Matty Bitchie
S 85½° E 202½ Ps.
Henry O'Donald
James Gault
"ABINGTON"
John Canon
423 As. & All
Surveyed Dec. 2. 1786 in consequence of a Virginia Certificate entered May 12th 1780.
"MOUNT AIRY"
John Canon
414 As. St. Measure
Surveyed Dec. 2. 1786 in consequence of a Virginia Certificate entered May 12. 1780.
Courses &c down the Creek
N 4° W 35 P Sug. T.
N 56 W 31 ds. W. Oak
S. 78 W 33 ds. Walnut
S. 68 W 57 ds.
S. 79 W 20 ds.
N. 4° E. 40 ds.
East 23½ ds.
N. 46 E. 16 ds.
N. 3° E. 51 ds. Rd Oak
N. 82 E. 23 ds. Chestnut
N. 10° E 85 ds. Ds.
N. 62 E. 18 ds.
N. 29 E. 74 ds.
N. 3° W 22 ds. a Post
320½
S 82° E 210 Ps.
S 82° E 210 Ps.
Creek
"SUGAR TREE BOTTOM"
William Young.
200 Acres. Strict Measure
Surveyed Feb. 25. 1788 in Pursuance of an Order of Board of Property dated Nov. 5. 1781
"CANON HILL"
John Canon
406 As. Strict Measure
Surveyed Nov 28. 1786 in consequence of a Virginia Certificate entered May 20th 1780
Charters
John White
"THE PEACH GARDEN"
Nathaniel Brown
324¾ As Strict Measure
Surveyed January 4th 1786 in consequence of a Virginia Certificate Entered Dec. 21. 1773.
"SUGAR TREE GROVE"
John Canon
363½ Acres
Surveyed Feb 25. 1788 in consequence of a Virginia Certificate Entered May 12. 1780
Jacob Norris
William Thompson
Samuel Gilpin
William Jordon
* "If the Allowance is Granted the Course from the W.O. will be S 65° E 12⅞ Per. to a Post, and from thence N 1⅞° East 308 Perches to the Elum"

A CONNECTED DRAFT OF THE PATENTS GRANTED TO JOHN CANON WITH ADJOINERS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, AS CERTIFIED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PENNSYLVANIA AT HARRISBURG

Copied from the original by J. B. Vaughan

CONTENTS

Page

Introductory 1
The Meeting of February 22nd, 1902 4
Address of W. B. Smiley, D. D. 7
" " Blaine Ewing 11
" " D. H. Fee 26
" " Rev. J. M. Work 36

Part Second

Preliminary 41
Address of Thomas Patterson 49
Reply of Thomas Reese 60
Address of John R. Paxton, D. D. 63
Address of Matthew Brown Riddle, D. D. 79
Centennial Ode by David Reed Miller, D. D. 89
Address of A. A. Lambing, L. L. D. 101
Address of Blaine Ewing 119
Appendices 163

Index to Portraits

W. B. Chambers ix
T. M. Potts xi
John L. McClelland xi
W. B. Gowern xi
Samuel McWilliams xiii
David H. Fee xiii
Samuel Munnell xiii
Stewart McPeake xiii
W. L. McCloy xiii
J. V. H. Cook xv
George Briceland xv
J. Brad Johnson xv
S. A. Lacock xv
George D. McNutt xv

William H. Paxton xvii
John B. Donaldson, M. D. xvii
S. Clark Smith xvii
David Hart xvii
Thomas Patterson, facing page 50
John R. Paxton, D. D., facing page 64
M. B. Riddle, D. D., facing page 80
A. A. Lambing, LL. D., facing page 102
Blaine Ewing, facing page 120
Rev. Robert Patterson, facing page 149
Aunt Margaret McCroby, facing page 72

List of Illustrations

The Watson Corner xix
Canonsburg in 1833 xxi
Dr. McMillan's log college xxiii
Chartiers Woolen Factory 8
The Black Horse Tavern 14
The Briceland Tavern 16
Hector McFadden's Hotel 22
The West Ward Public School 24
Canonsburg after the fire 28
Col. George Morgan's House 132
Trying to hear the speakers 40
Trying to hear the speakers 44
View of the Parade 48
Columbia and the thirteen states 56
The Canonsburg Council in 1902 60
Miller's Run Church 84
The Philadelphia Company Exhibit 96
The Hill Church 128
The First Plot of Canonsburg 146
The Second Plot of Canonsburg ..... Appendix
The Churches of Canonsburg 128-136
Jefferson College as it now appears 152
Deed of John Canon ..... Appendix
Map showing the Patents granted to John Canon. Appendix.
Map showing the road from Canonsburg to Pittsburg. Appendix.
Power of Attorney from George Washington to John Canon, Frontispiece.

Central Committee

W. B. Chambers, Chairman.
Th. Maxwell Potts, vice chairman.
John S. McClelland, Secretary.
Samuel McWilliams,
D. H. Fee.
Walter L. McCloy,
Stewart McPeake,
Samuel Munnell. Sr.,
J. V. H. Cook,
J. Brad. Johnson,
L. A. Lacock, M. D.,
George D. McNutt,
William H. Paxton,
S. Clark Smith,
John B. Donaldson, M. D.,
David Hart,
R. Fred Douds,
Wesley Greer, Esq.,
Blaine Ewing. Esq.,
Joseph B. Donaldson,
John C. Morgan,
Ralph Martin,
Joseph G. Charlton,
John L. Cockins, Esq.

Sub-Committees

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Joseph B. Donaldson, Chairman.

George V. Harsha,
Oliver L. Paxton,
R. Fred Douds,
W. K. Galbraith,
W. J. Gowern,
Culbert M. Greer,
George C. McPeake,
Howard L. Cockins,
Walter L. McCloy,
John A. Berry,
S. A. Crozier,
Richard Jones,
Dr. S. A. Lacock,
George G. McMillan,
Homer Shaffer.

COMMITTEE ON SPEAKERS.

Dr. John B. Donaldson, Chairman.

Rev. W. B. Smiley, D. D.
Rev. D. W. Heazelton.

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY RECORD.

John V. H. Cook,
H. A. Huston,
Wm. McWilliams,
J. Brad Johnson,
Addison Coleman,
Jas. F. Speer,
David Hart.
Thomas Reese,
John W Grubbs.

COMMITTEE ON RULES.

Wesley Greer, Chairman.
T. Maxwell Potts,
Samuel McWilliams,
W. B. Chambers.

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

David Hart, Chairman.
Dr. J. C. Rankin,
W. A. Dickson,
J. W. Munnell,
M. C. Wilson,
Ross Hott.

COMMITTEE ON INVITATIONS.

Samuel McWilliams, Chairman.
Thos. Maxwell Potts,
Miss Jeanette Dickson,
John McCahon,
Miss Natalie Snyder,
Ralph Martin.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE.

R. Fred Douds, Chairman.
Rev. W. F. Brown, D. D.,
John L. McClelland,
Wm. H. Paxton,
W. L. McCloy,
C. C. Johnson,
George D. McNutt,
D. H. Fee,
Dr. W. H. Alexander,
Wesley Greer,
Robert M. McCullough,
R. H. Black,
Ralph Martin,
W. H. McNary,
Robert T. Kirk,
Joseph G. Charlton,
W. K. Galbraith.

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME.

Wesley Greer, Chairman.
William H. Paxton,
Dr. Jno. B. Donaldson,
John L. McClelland,
W. J. Gowern,
Wm. B. Chambers.

COMMITTEE ON MEDALS AND BADGES.

S. Clark Smith, Chairman.
Dr. A. L. Runnion.
George McWilliams.

COMMITTEE ON GROUNDS.

J. V. H. Cook, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DATE OF CELEBRATION.

Dr. S. A. Lacock, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES.

John L. Cockins, Chairman.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

S. Blaine Ewing, Chairman.

Wesley Greer,
Samuel McMlllan,
T. Maxwell Potts,
Dr. Jno. Morrison.

COMMITTEE ON DECORATIONS.

George D. McNutt, Chairman.
A. A. Adams.

COMMITTEE ON CANON DESCENDENTS.

S. Blaine Ewing, Chairman.

D. H. Fee.
C. M. Greer.

COMMITTEE ON PARADE.

W. H. Paxton, Chairman.

L. M. Porter,
G. C. McPeake,
S. L. Kennedy,
A. A. Rowe,
C. M. Greer,
H. L. Cockins,
W. A. Dickson,
George McWilliams.

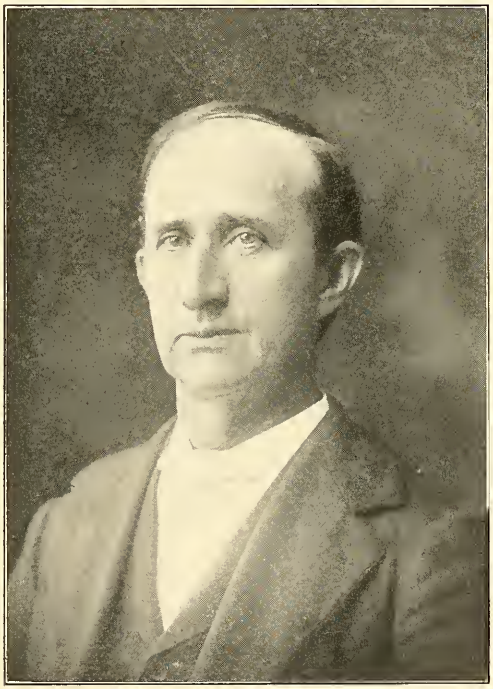
PRESS COMMITTEE.

John C. Morgan, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION.

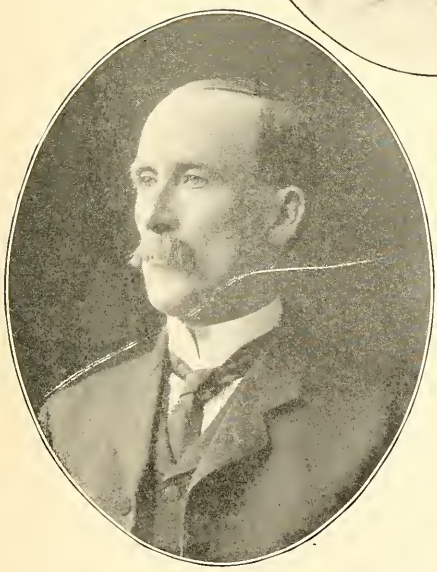
Samuel Munell, Sr., Chairman.

MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

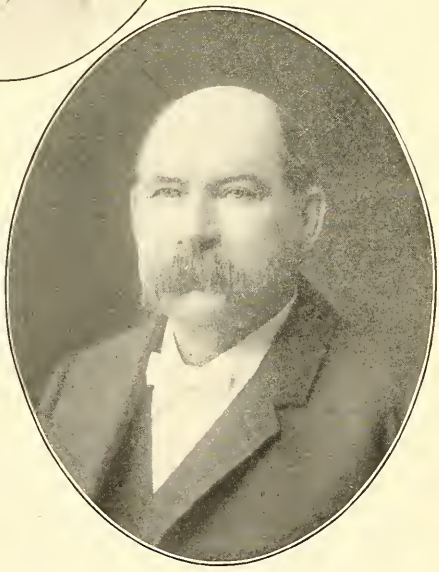


W. B. CHAMBERS
CHAIRMAN

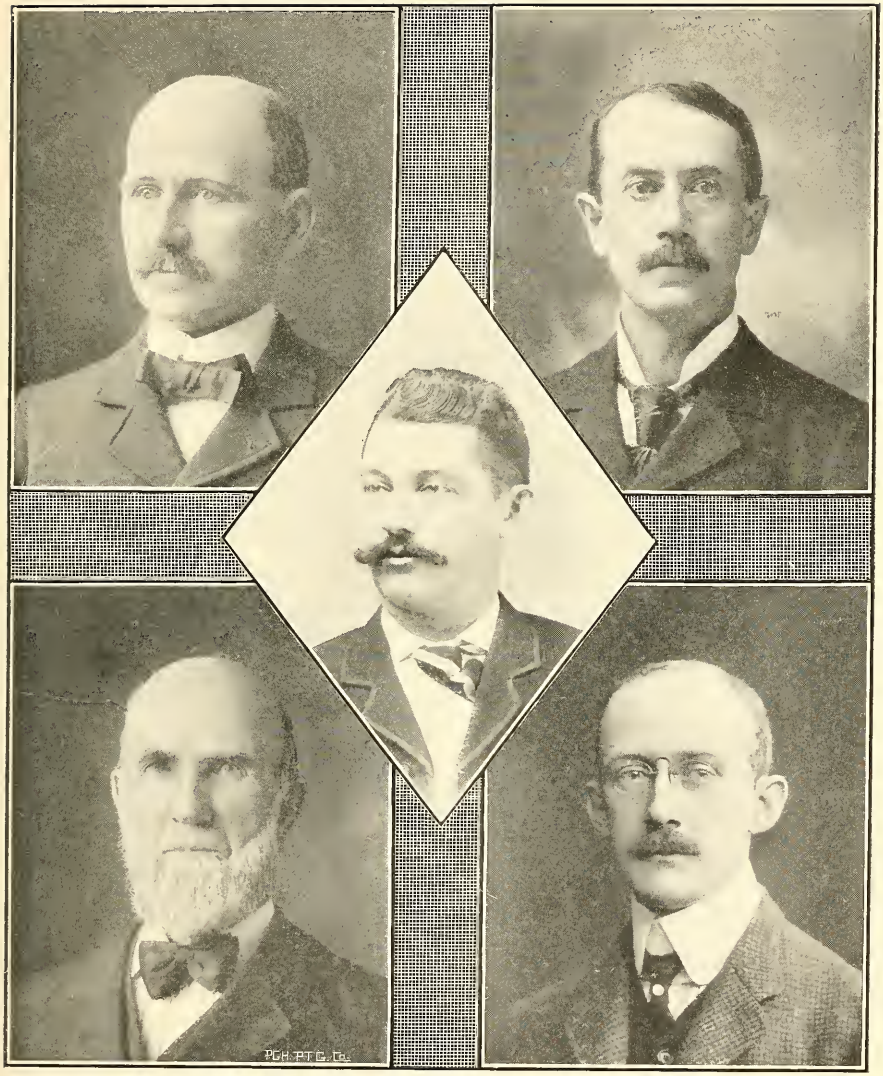
TH. MAXWELL POTTS
VICE-CHAIRMAN



WILLIAM J. GOWERN
TREASURER



JOHN L. McCLELLAND
SECRETARY



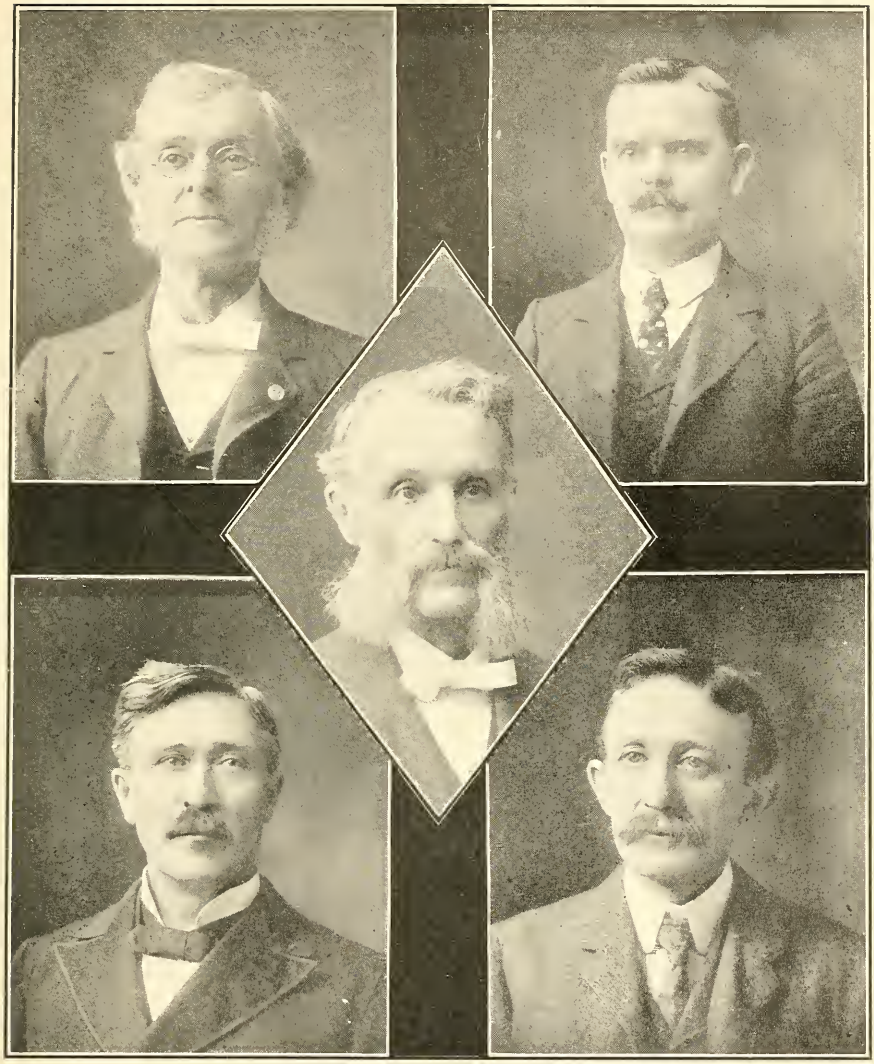
SAMUEL McWILLIAMS

D. H. FEE

STEWART McPEAKE

SAMUEL MUNNELL, SR.

WALTER L. McCLOY



J. V. H. COOK

GEORGE BRICELAND

J. BRAD JOHNSON

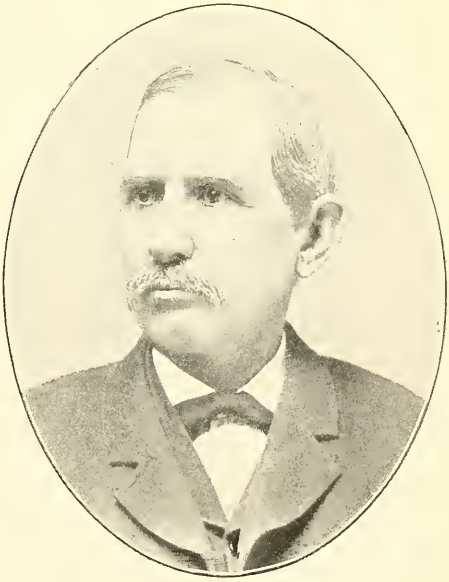
S. A. LACOCK, M. D.

GEORGE D. McNUTT

WILLIAM H. PAXTON

S. CLARK SMITH

JOHN B. DONALDSON, M. D.



DAVID HART

THE WATSON CORNER

SITE OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, FROM A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE POSSESSION OF THE MISSES MARTIN

CANONSBURG IN 1833

An old print by E. Weber & Co.

DR. McMILLAN'S LOG COLLEGE ON ITS ORIGINAL FOUNDATION

Since moved to the college campus. Photograph by F. C. Dunlevy

Introductory

ESIDE the crystal waters of the Chartiers, unpolluted by a teeming population with its many mills and industries, in the long ago the town of Canonsburg, sat on the southern slope of a commanding hill and gazed upon the changing seasons as they came and went. Since it was first projected and plotted on the records, the United States has passed from a colony of Great Britain into a mighty nation, independent, aggressive and powerful. Its sons have gone forth to labor in the great world, or fight for the nation. From the time of the nation's birth through the Revolution, the Mexican War, the Rebellion and the war with Spain, our town has not been without representatives in its country's battles:—some returned to its hospitable homes and some have left but an empty chair to chronicle their deeds of valor and sacrifice.

In other pursuits its sons and daughters have scattered far and wide in every vocation in life, and upon the soil of India, Siam, China, Japan and Africa, yea, almost in every country of the inhabited globe, some of our people have set up their household gods, and their childrens' children trace back their genealogy to old Canonsburg.

What manner of men they were, these old worthies of our town and vicinity, how they lived and worked, joyed and sorrowed, and at last were laid to rest beneath the white head stones that dot the hillside of the fertile valley, have they not been chronicled in the history of Western Pennsylvania both religious and educational, time and

again? But of the municipal history of the town but little had been written; to recount that history, to chronicle the first century of urban life and properly celebrate our 100 years of incorporated existence, as well as to render fitting tribute to the sturdy men and women of this outpost of civilization,—this watch tower of learning, both sacred and profane,—it became our sacred duty to furnish an opportunity to recount the past and tell of its mighty men. In very truth no feeble folk were they: and lest we forget our heritage of sacrifice and suffering, it becomes us to stop in the hurry for wealth, to forget for the time railroads, trolley cars and lot sales, oil, gas, and coal, iron, steel and tin and go back to the time when men lived out of doors and on top of the ground, not in and under it, as we do now.

The Inception of the Idea

When it began to dawn on the good people of Canonsburg that their town had almost completed a century of existence, that on February 22nd, 1902, we had completed one hundred years of incorporated life as a borough, it became evident that some recognition should be taken of that fact, and that it should not go unchronicled, the following pages were written, to give to those who love the memory of the old town the words of praise and kindly remembrance spoken at its Centenary Celebration.

The city fathers of long ago had shown their usual disregard of weather when they incorporated the town at such a time, as February, but to Canonsburgers the 22nd has greater interest than even the birth of Washington, its own birthday being the same. That some official recognition should be made of the event was so generally conceded that a meeting of the citizens was called in the borough building early in January, 1902. This meeting was largely attended and much discussion resulted, indeed

so various were the suggestions and so animated did the discussion become, that a committee of six was appointed to formulate a plan for the celebration, which should as far as possible, coincide with the ideas expressed in the citizens committee. This committee was accordingly appointed and on January 13th, 1902, it met in the office of T. M. Potts there being present Mr. Potts, Wm. H. Paxton, Joseph B. Donaldson, David Hart, Samuel Munnell, Sr., John L. McClelland and W. L. McCloy. On January 31st this committee made its report to the Central Committee. At the previous meetings of the Committee Capt. David Hart, the Burgess of the Town had acted as chairman of the meeting· ex officio. On February 10th, 1902, the executive committee, after being called to order by the chairman proceeded to a permanent organization by electing Wm. B. Chambers, Chairman, Thomas Maxwell Potts, vice-chairman, John L. McClelland, Secretary and W. J. Gowern, Treasurer. The chairmen of the numerous sub-committees were appointed as recited in the report of W. B. Chambers to the meeting of Council, who chose their assistants as there enumerated.

As a result of this recommendation of the committee, the Borough Council, by resolution called an open meeting of the Council, to be held in the Opera House on Saturday, February 22nd, 1902, at one o'clock p. m., for the purpose of giving official sanction to the Centennial Celebration, and invited the public to meet with it at that time and be present to endorse the action of Council in taking under its official wing the laudable object of the committee, viz., to properly celebrate the ending of our century of existence and officially launch us into the large celebration which was to follow; to make the occurrence of the day a part of the official record of theBorough, to perpetuate the present and known history of the town and rescue from oblivion what had been learned of our fast vanishing past.

The meeting was accordingly held and well attended. After the Canonsburg Orchestra had played several selections to the great enjoyment of the audience, Capt. David Hart called the meeting to order. Present David Hart chairman, A. D. Anderson, T. M. Reese and W. A. Mathews.

Proceedings of the Meeting of Feb. 22, 1902
Held in Morgan's Opera House.

The chairman called for the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, which on motion of Anderson, was dispensed with. The chairman then called for remarks from any one authorized to state the purpose of the meeting, whereupon W. B. Chambers advancing addressed council as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Town Council of the Borough of Canonsburg:

Gentlemen:—I wish to bring before your Honorable Body at the time a matter of public importance, one that relates to the public good and interest of our Borough, and one that I trust will call for favorable action on your part officially. In the way of a public celebration of the 100th anniversary of our Borough.

Gentlemen:—At a public meeting of our citizens, held in the month of January, 1902, it was the sentiment of that meeting that a public celebration of our 100th anniversary should be held. A Committee composed of the following well known citizens—viz: T. M. Potts, J. L. McClelland, David Hart, Samuel Munnell, Sr., W. H. Paxton and W. L. McCloy, submitted the following recommendations, to an adjourned meeting held on January 31st, 1902; which report was received and accepted. This Committee recommended:

1st. That the Burgess and Town Council be requested to take official action, so that a proper minute may be made and entered upon the records of the Borough as a matter of History. That they are requested to call a meeting of the citizens to be held in some suitable place on Saturday, February 22nd, 1902, at one o'clock P. M., when a preliminary celebration may be had, in the way of a few short addresses, and the adoption of an outline for a more elaborate celebration at a future date to be determined.

2nd. That a Central Committee of twenty-five or more Citizens be appointed who shall have charge and control of all matters pertaining to the celebration. That this Central Committee shall organize as soon as possible by electing a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as they may deem or find necessary from time to time. This Committee shall appoint all sub-committees for attending to special details, and that these sub-committees shall from time to time report to the Central Committee as necessity may require. That the Central Committee and all other committees shall keep a minute of all their proceedings, so that the whole may be preserved as a matter of historical interest.

3rd. That the following named persons shall constitute the Central Committee of twenty-five or more—David Hart, R. Fred Douds, Wesley Greer, John L. Cockins, S. Blaine Ewing, Samuel Munnell, Sr., T. M. Potts, J. V. H. Cook, Ralph Martin, William B. Chambers, John L. McClelland, Joseph B. Donaldson, John C. Morgan, J. Bradford Johnston, William H. Paxton, William J. Gowern, S. C. Smith, Dr. John B. Donaldson, Dr. S. A. Lacock, George D. McNutt, Stewart McPeake, W. L. McCloy, D. H. Fee, Joseph G. Charlton, George Briceland, Samuel McWilliams. In pursuance, therefore, to the recommendation of the committee, this Central Committee, I have

just read, convened in the Town Hall on February 10th, 1902, and was called to order by David Hart, Esq. The following permanent organization took place by unanimous consent: Wm. B. Chambers, Chairman, T. M. Potts, Vice Chairman, J. L. McClelland, Secretary and W. J. Gowern Treasurer; whereupon the following members were named as Chairmen of Sub-Committees: Joseph B. Donaldson, Finance. Dr. John B. Donaldson, Speakers. David Hart, Music. J. V. H. Cook, Grounds and Military Record. Dr. S. A. Lacock, Date of Celebration. John L. Cockin, Privileges. S. Blaine Ewing, Historical Events and Canon Descendents. W. H. Paxon, Parade. S. Clark Smith, Medals and Badges. Wesley Greer, Programme. J. C. Morgan, Press. Stewart McPeake, Fire Works, etc. Samuel Munnell, Sr., Transportation. Samuel McWilliams, Invitations.

The Committee on date of celebration have named Thursday, June 26th, 1902. It is our purpose to carry out on that day a celebration, one that will bring to our town thousands and thousands of visitors. We expect to have with us, the Governor of our State and other State officials, Distinguished men, Senators and Congressmen, Judges of our Courts, Representatives of the different Arts, Trades, Manufacturies, Industries and Business Houses of our town, each appropriately decorated and festooned in an artistic way, the whole making an attraction that will be well worth coming miles to see. We say to you, Gentlemen, you will see on your streets that day more people than were ever in the confines of our Borough. We want to make it a gala day, a joyous occasion, and one to be remembered with pleasure by all present.

And now, Gentlemen, having shown to you, that we are a duly and regularly organized body of your citizens, organized in the interest, and working as we trust, for the future welfare and to advance the interests of our town by

a public Celebration, we would request that you would take such official action at this time, as would authorize us in the name of the Borough, to carry out such a public Celebration of our one hundredth anniversary on June 26th, as will be a credit to the Borough which you so ably represent, to the people of the same, and to the Central Committee and their assisants in whose behalf I make this request.

Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention, and the interest you have already shown in the coming event, in the splendid preliminary meeting, you are about to favor us with, and I respectfully ask a favorable consideration at this time.

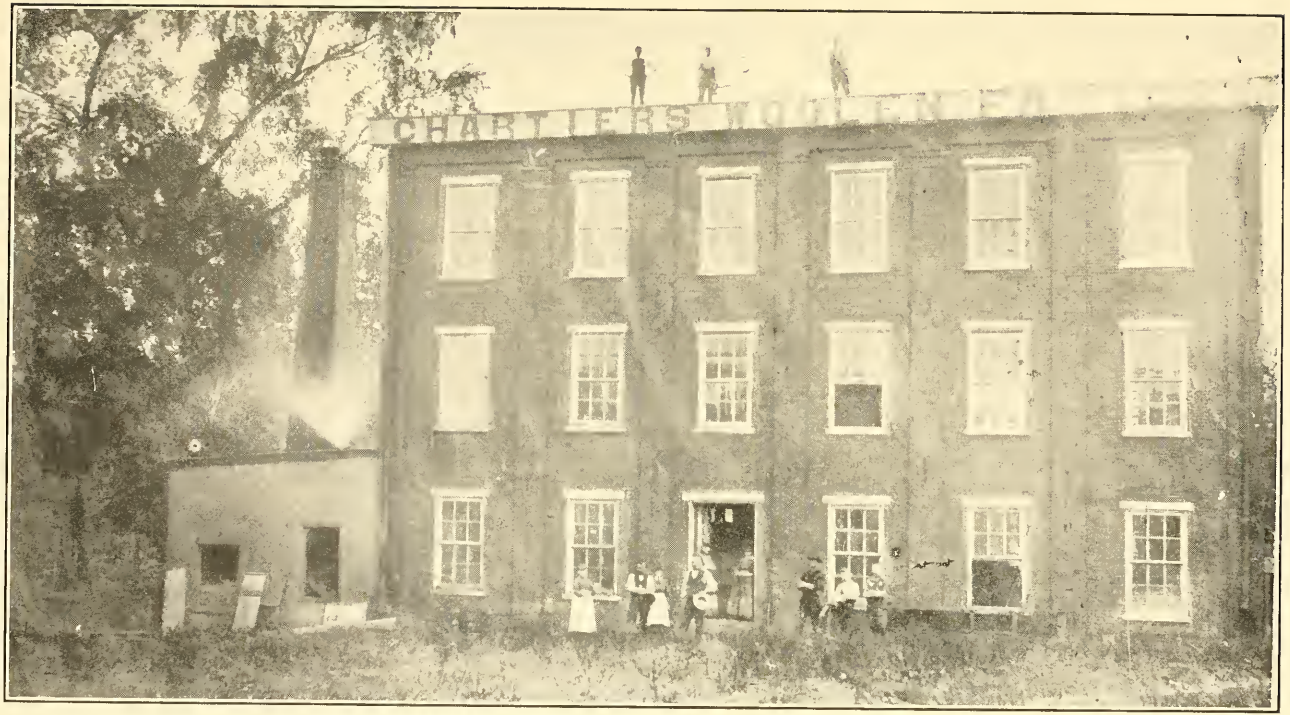
The adoption of this resolution presented by Mr. Chambers, was moved by Reese, seconded by Anderson, and was adopted by Council.

Rev. W. B. Smiley, D. D., being called on responded as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Members of Council, Ladies and Gentlemen:—It is somewhat difficult for those whose conceptions of social life are fashioned to a good degree by the conditions that prevail in these first years of the 20th century, to fully realize what it meant to found a town a hundred years ago. When we look around us and see towns not more than 5 or may be 10 years old that are larger, and possessed of greater industrial interests than our own, now about to enter upon the second century of its existence, there may be some disposition to ask ourselves the question, or at least for some of our neighbors over on the river to ask us, what have you done in all these years to be worthy of such a great celebration? But taking the prevailing conditions into account, I think I am safely within the bounds of truth when I say that Canonsburg during

the first half of the last century, exercised a greater influence, with her few hundred of citizens, than do the mushroom towns of the present day with their thousands of a population. You cannot always determine the value of a thing by its size or the rapidity of its growth. Boasting of more physical proportions reminds one of what Alexander Stevens once said to the council opposing him in a case in court, who was somewhat inclined to help along a bad cause by berating his opponent and reflecting upon his diminutive stature. "Why, sir", said he to Mr. Stevens, "I could swallow a man like you". "If you did", was the quick reply, "you would have more brains in your stomach than you ever had in your head". It is brain rather than brawn, quality rather than quantity, personality rather than proportions that counts in the make up of a town, as well as of an individual; and whilst we would not wish to intimate that these modern towns that are meeting with such rapid growth, are altogether lacking in these better elements, yet I give myself credit for perfect candor and sincerity when I say that few communities have been more richly blessed with a predominance of all the better qualities that go to make up the highest type of society, than this old town of Canonsburg during all these years of her existence. A leading thinker of the present day and a close student of human nature, has often said to me, "there is a marrow about the native stock of that community, which is rarely found elsewhere".

Now this is not said that we may puff ourselves up with pride, but that we may do honor to the generations gone, and that the younger ones may know something of the quality of the material that was built into the foundation of our community, which accounts in great measure for its substantial character at the present time. To start a town a hundred years ago was a different matter from what it is now. With the conditions that prevail at present, a dense



CHARTIERS WOOLEN FACTORY, PROPERTY OF HART HARSHA & CO.
BURNED FEBRUARY 28, 1887

population already in existence, and multitudes coming in upon us every day from foreign shores, it would be a more difficult thing to discover how not to have a town, than how to build one.

But very different were the conditions when our grandfathers laid out and incorporated this town. At that time Pittsburg was not deserving of the dignity of being called a town. All this region around about us was then a forest. And to make a town certainly a few people are a necessity. Just how many signed the petition for this corporation, I am not informed, but probably enough to provide candidates for all the offices, and possibly not a sufficient number over and above this to make a respectable remonstrance, else it is probable that like our neighboring borough of Houston, it would have had considerable history before it became a town at all. But it is enough for us to know that there were enough progressive citizens in this region to establish an organized borough 100 years ago, else the occasion of this speech this afternoon would not have been furnished us, and our town would have been just like any other common ordinary place, instead of the dignified, honored and prosperous community that it is, with a hundred years of history behind it, every one of which records the doings of noble and worthy men, the fathers and grandfathers of those who are here to-day. The town was called Canonsburg, and sometimes by our neighbors, Guntown, possibly for the purpose of frightening the Indians, who filled the woods that surrounded it. But seriously the name Canonsburg stands for something, wherever we may go, that is more useful and honorable and influential than warfare, and gunpowder. Whatever our community may become in the future, you can never separate from her past history, the thought of education and culture, and religious life and character. For years she had no peers west of the mountains as a religious and educational center from

which went forth streams to make glad this Western Continent. The type of character developed here during the middle half of the last century had in it elements of worth the equal of any thing ever produced in the fertile soil of this new world. And it is no mean responsibility that is laid upon us in receiving such a blessing from the generations that have gone before us in the community. And in the changing character of the contributing elements by which the town's existence is maintained and continued, we should seek to guard sacredly the honor that has been clinging, through all these years, to the name by which we are known. It may have a new element added to its meaning by the time another generation has come into being by reason of the increased smoke that shall arise from the busy hive of its material industry; and we shall be disappointed if it does not come to be a center of great material prosperity. But in order to this, let us not feel that it is necessary to cut loose from the moorings of the past. Mills were never intended to take the place of Colleges, nor to lessen the necessity for their existence. And churches will never be more needed and their teachings never more helpful than in the day of our greatest prosperity. In our haste to be rich and great, let us resolve to maintain our integrity and honor, and with these foundation stones underneath, there is nothing to be feared for the safety of the structure, no matter how fast we may enlarge it.

Address of Blaine Ewing

Read at the open meeting of Council on February 22, 1902.
A brief sketch of our Founder, John Canon,
and his town in its infancy.

FRANCIS PARKMAN, writing of the County west of the Alleghenies, in 1760, says, "One vast and continuous forest shadowed the fertile soil, covering the lands as the grass covers a garden lawn, sweeping over hill and hollow in endless undulation, burying mountains in verdure and mantling brooks and rivers from the light of day. Here and there in some rich meadow, opened to the sun, the Indian squaw turned the black mould with their rude instruments of bone and iron, and sowed their scanty store of maize and beans".

Although our County was not the permanent abiding place of any Indian tribes, when the white man had set up his cabin here, he was liable to have a visit, none too welcome, from his red brother.

Into this wilderness the pioneer, John Canon, forced his way. The first mark of civilization was usually a mill in which to grind the grain for his frugal existence. Around a mill a few houses were gradually collected, and such was Canonsburg in the early history. Located along an old Indian trail, which wended its crooked way directly up the hill, gradually a few cabins collected, and the squatter became lord of the soil.

Westmoreland County was erected on the 26th of February, 1771, and at the January Sessions of '74, John Canon was one of the viewers "to view a road to begin at Thomas Guess' (Gists) from thence to Paul Froman's Mill

on Chartiers Creek." The last named mill being at the present site of the Town of Linden, North Strabane Township.

At this time the most westward county of Virginia was Augusta County, with its County Seat at Staunton in the Shenandoah Valley. On a claim based on the Charter of the London Company, the western boundery of the County was only fixed by the limits of settlements in the Northwestern boundary.

Lord Dunmore claimed jurisdiction over this section of country, and adjourned Court from Staunton to Fort Dunmore, at Pittsburgh. He then issued new commissions of the peace, and among the names of the justices of the peace issued by Dunmore in 1774, John Canon's name appeared.

On this very day, one hundred and twenty-seven years ago, he took the oath of adjuration and allegiance to his Brittanic Majesty as a justice of Dunmore's Court, on the present site of Pittsburgh, and regularly thereafter sat in its deliberations.

He seems to have been tenacious of authority, and a supporter of his allegiance, for he sat in judgment on Thomas Scott an adherent of Pennsylvania jurisdiction, who afterwards became the first Prothonotary of Washington County.

It was as difficult a matter then, as now, to serve two masters, and to the trials of the frontier, and incursions of the Indians, was added the rival claims of Virginia and Pennsylvania jurisdictions.

When, however, the boundery controversy was settled, and Virginia Courts had ceased to exist, we find him as one of the first representatives from Washington County to the Supreme Executive Council at Philadelphia.

The organization of Washington County from a part of Westmoreland County, occurred on the 28th of March.

1781, and four days later, the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania appointed David Leet and John Canon sub-lieutenants of said County.

The first election in the new County for representatives to the Supreme Executive Council resulted in the election of Hon. James Edgar and John Canon, the returns of which election were read in Council at Philadelphia, November 30th, 1781. He was active in the defense of the frontier as shown by the following minute of the Council:

December 29th, 1781. "On consideration of the proposals made by John Canon, Esq., for supplying the Militia and Rangers of the County of Washington, which may be employed for the defense of the frontiers of said County.

Ordered, that twelve pence per ration in specie, be allowed for the rations delivered at such places as the said troops may from time to time be stationed, within said County of Washington. The rations to consist of one pound of beef, or three-fourths pound of pork: one gill of whiskey per day, and one quart of salt and two quarts of vinegar per hundred rations."

And to show that Col. Canon was actually engaged in supplying the troops with subsistence, we see a note of the fact that on April 17th, 1782, "an order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of John Canon, Esq., for the sum of one hundred pounds specie, in part of contract for supplying the troops stationed in the County of Washington with provision."

And on February 15th, 1783, "An order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of Col. John Canon for ninety-five pounds, six shillings, balance of his account for rations furnished to the Militia and Rangers in Washington County from February 1782 to February 1783."

On November 20th of the next year, we see another voucher drawn on the Treasurer, in favor of Col. Canon

for rations furnished the Rangers and Militia in Washington County, up to and including August, 1783.

On October 6th, 1784, in pursuance of an election in this region, he was commissioned with Matthew Ritchie, one of the Justices of Court of Common Pleas for Washington County.

He was again called to sit in the Councils of this State as we see by a minute dated December 1st, 1789.

"An order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of John Cannon, Esq., for fifty-three pounds, ten shilings, for his attendance in Council from the 7th to the 11th of February, and from the 10th of August until the 2nd of October, 1789, and his mileage coming to Philadelphia and returning to Washington County."

A still earlier mention of Canon appears in the records of Youghiogheny County, in reference to the "public salt" which sold for the price of six pounds, ten shillings per bushel, by order of Court one year before. This enormous price will serve to illustrate the difficulties under which the people west of the Alleghenies labored for means of transportation. "On September 29th, 1779, the Court ordered that Col. John Canon have the public salt which now lies at Alexandria, brought up to this (Youghiogheny) County and distribute it to the persons entitled to receive it, and that he be authorized to contract for the carriage on such terms as he can, taking care in the distribution to fix the price so as to raise the money due thereon for the original cost."

But our hero was not perfect. While it can be, and has been successfully shown by others that he was not implicated in the expedition against the Moravian Indians, when popular excitement ran high, and the whole people were embroiled over the whiskey insurrection, John Canon's name led the list in the call for Militia to meet at

THE BLACK HORSE TAVERN
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY B. E.

Braddock's Field in July, '94. In which call the admission was made that the letters taken from the mails were in the possession of the Committee.

That he was present at Henry Westbay's Tavern (the old Black Horse Tavern) when the mail bag containing letters from this section to the authorities at Philadelphia, was opened, seems to be conclusively proved, being invited in by the others more deeply implicated, to embroil as many as possible, in the general catastrophe. That he was not visited with severe punishment is attributed to the intervention of Washington, whose attorney in fact, he was, having charge of the renting of his farms in the "Washington Tract" in Mt. Pleasant Township.

At such a time it would have been suicidal to affect indifference, and I doubt if he even felt it. A Scotchman by birth and bred for generations to hate an exciseman, he was, on principal, opposed to the government's usurpation of power, as it was then generally called, as we saw how hard the excise legislation was on his friends and neighbors. Distilling of liquor was practiced everywhere, and was the only means of earning money for this section, cut off from communication from the rest of the world by mountains that were almost impassible. The Ohio river was in the control of the French, and afforded no exit for our commerce.

After a lapse of over one hundred years, it would be strange if we could not see some faults in any man, but these arose more from quick sympathies and a hasty temper than from lack of good judgment.

He was the firm friend of education in the broad sense. When proposals for the donation of a lot for an academy, were rejected by the founder of Washington, Col. Canon, in 1791, not only gave the lot, but advanced the money to

build the stone college which stood where the West Ward public school now stands.

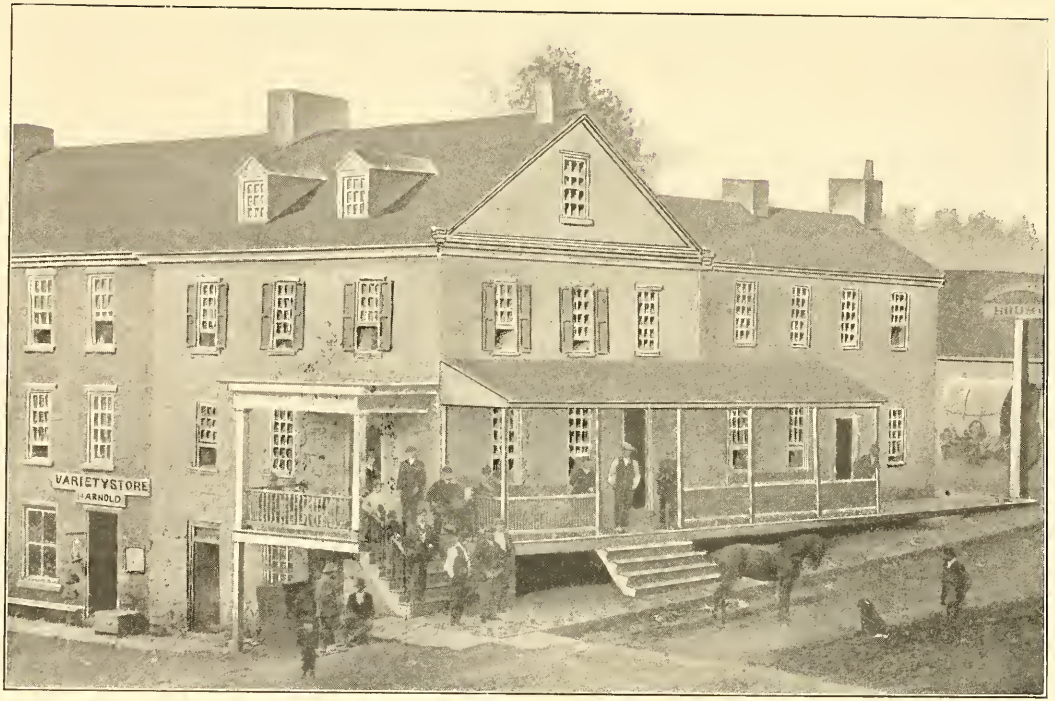
At a time when deeds were carelessly written as a rule, and any memorandum of sale was considered sufficient. John Canon's deeds are models of good conveyancing and full recitals. Many an attorney in looking over the records has had cause to bless him for reciting fully and accurately, the entire history or reason which led up to the conveyance.

Judged by the estimation in which he was held by his contemporaries, by his public service, and the offices he held, he stood the full test of good citizenship.

John Canon's death occurred in 1798 when but little past the meridian of life just before the Academy he had helped to found, became Jefferson College. He left a widow, Janet, and four sons, John, Samuel, William and Joshua and three daughters, Jean, Anne and Margaret. He is described as an active, intelligent and gentlemanly man and from what has preceded, he certainly led a strenuous life, full of action and excitement, and dignified by generous service rendered to his country, the cause of education and religion. General Washington himself says of him in his diary September, 1784, "I lodged at a Col. Canon's on the waters of Shurtees Creek; a kind, hospitable man; and sensible."

But turning our attention from the founder of the town to the town itself we find that according to the best records obtainable, Canonsburg was laid out on the 15th of April, 1788, and later, on February 22nd, 1802, erected into a Borough by act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and is the oldest borough in the County of Washington.

The Act of incorporation is too long to read here, but it directed the citizens who had resided within the Borough for six months, last preceeding the election, to meet in one of the rooms of the College in the Borough, on the



THE BRICELAND TAVERN

From a photograph in the possession of the Briceland family

first Monday of May in each year, between the hours of 12 and 6 o'clock in the evening, and elect by ballot one respectable citizen, residing therein, as Burgess, and five respectable citizens to be a Town Council.

Among the duties of Council as prescribed in the Act is to "appoint a town clerk and other officers as may be necessary to regulate the digging and gathering coal in the coal banks adjacent to said town, by the inhabitants thereof, in such manner, that the private rights of individuals be not impaired or injured, and manage the affairs of the coal banks so far as the rights of the inhabitants of said Borough extends to the same."

An election was accordingly held on the third of May, 1802, which resulted in the election of Samuel Murdoch as Burgess; and

William Clarke, Thomas Briceland,
William White, John Johnston

and John Watson, Esq., as Council; John McGill was elected high constable.

Samuel Murdoch, Esq., was elected (by Council) overseer of the streets, lanes, alleys and roads within the Borough: William Clarke, Treasurer: Thomas Briceland and William White to regulate partition walls and fences: Andrew Munroe (Nailor), Clerk of Market.*

Borough of Canonsburg, May 26, 1802, the Town Council met; all present.

1st. Resolved that David Wilson & Wm. Hartupee be and they are hereby appointed Overseers of the poor.

2nd. That Thomas Briceland, William White & John Johnston be managers of the Coal Bank.

3rd. Resolved that all Officers of the Borough appointed by Council be sworn duly to execute their respective offices.

The first act of this Council was as follows: "Resolved that the High Constable shall forthwith take a return of all

* This name should be spelled Munro.

taxable property within the Borough of Canonsburg, which property shall be all in and out lots, cows and horses above three years old," and the next. "Resolved that from and after three weeks from the publication of this act, all Hogs, shoats and pigs running at large within the bounds of said borough, without yokes and rings, upon complaint shall become a forfeiture to said Borough", which is closely followed by a note in the margin. "Hog law repealed."

"Resolved that all Tavern Keepers, Cyder and Beer Houses shall have their doors shut by ten o'clock (Tavern keepers for the reception of Travellers only excepted.")

On May 11th, 1802, the members of Council voted themselves "forty cents per day for their services," but in the following April they repealed the ordinance, doubtless under pressure. And also voted to sit with closed doors, the clerk being authorized to receive and present all petitions.

The first tax duplicate shows 87 names and at one cent on the dollar (which was the limit allowed by the charter) the tax amounted to $122.53.

In June, 1802, it was enacted "That for the better securing the peace and happiness of said Borough of Canonsburg, that a pair of stocks be made and placed near the Market House, to confine offenders in, whose crimes may not merit greater punishment. And the Burgess is hereby directed to carry the above resolution into effect without delay, and is authorized to draw his bill upon the Treasurer for the amount of expense, which may have been incurred in so doing."

"Whereas, persons frequently come to the Borough under the characters of Mounte-banks, stage-players and exhibitions of Puppet-shows. Therefore, be it enacted by the Town Council that if such Mounte-banks, play actors or managers of a Puppet-show shall exhibit in their profession for money, within the said Borough, that such per-

sons shall be fined in the sum of fifty dollars with cost of suit." Passed June 25, 1802. No prohibition, however, was enacted against a free show.

The tender solicitude of the city Fathers was also manifested for the old Market House. "Be it enacted &c. that the superintending and care of the Market House devolve particularly upon the clerk of the Market, who is, hereby, directed to take care that no injury shall be done to it, either by boys swinging upon the gates, breaking the roof with stones, or hurting in any manner, or by any person bringing a nuisance into it, such as horses, cows, sheep, hogs, &s.; and if any person shall so offend the Clerk, if he sees proper may apply to the Burgess, who shall issue his warrant to apprehend such offender, and upon conviction punish him or her by fine, (or imprisonment in the stocks) according to the nature of the offense." The words in parenthesis have a pen line drawn through them. This was evidently aimed at the pranks of the students of 1802.

In 1804, the market days were fixed on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and "no meat, butter, fruit, vegetables, or other articles" were to be offered for sale at any other place than at the market before 10 o'clock A. M., on pain of forfeiture to any person who chose to take them, and no butcher was allowed to sell any meat on any other day in the week than market days, unles he would notify every family in the Borough of the fact. The reason of this enactment does not appear, unless it was to prevent the early birds from intercepting the people on their way to market, and buying the best to be had.

April 6, 1808 "Resolved that every person residing within the Borough shall be entitled to receive coal from the Bank known by the name of Laughlins' Bank."

This enactment seems to be a breach of the conditions of sale, contained in Canon's deeds, wherein some such wording as this is used, varying in different deeds. "With

the privilege of the Coal Bank South of the Dam forever, to take as much Coal therefrom, as will be sufficient firing, for the houses now built, or that may be hereafter built, upon the hereby granted lot of ground; provided the said Abraham Singhorse, his heirs and assigns do not injure the works of the Dam."

See Deed John Canon to Abraham Singhorse, April 9, 1795. Deed Book O. 519.

Just when this valuable right was lost the minutes do not disclose, but it evidently continued for many years and the question was finally submitted to Thomas McGiffin, Esq., but his decision was not recorded.

In the statement of Borough expenses for 1805 this item occurs, "By Thompson & Weavers bill for building bridge at creek $65.00." I presume this was at the foot of what was then Main Street, now Central Avenue.

June 6, 1808, Manasha Miles, by his son Richard hired stall and Block No. 1 for which he is to pay $1.50 per An. (i. e. a stall in the Old Market House.)

After much conversation on different proposals the following was passed. "That every member of Council who does not attend at the places of meeting, due notice being given, within 15 minutes shall be find fifty cents." This is the way they secured a quorum in 1808.

"Feb. 14, 1810. Resolved that a beam sufficient to draw 150 lbs. and small weights be purchased for the use of the Market-house, for the use of said Borough." And in the same year an ordinance was passed that "All meat or any other article brought to the market house for sale, shall be weighed by the public scales only. Any person or persons found weighing any article or articles with steel-yard, or any other way but the above mentioned, for each offense, shall pay one dollar to be recovered by the Burgess, one half to the use of the informer, the other half for the use of the Borough."

In the year 1810, 5 mills tax were levied, June 19; September 20th an additional ¼ per cent amounting to $195. 97½ was levied.

"Whereas, application was made by a number of the inhabitants of the Borough stating that two or three feet off the side of Water Street was wanted to make the scite of the school house more commodious, therefore, Resolved by the authority of the Town Council, that forty feet in length and three feet in breadth, off the South side of Water Street, any where opposite Alex. Murdock, Esq., lots on said street, be granted in perpetuity to Craig Ritchie, Esq., John Watson, Esq., and Doctor Samuel Murdock and other subscribers and their successors, to a paper containing articles of association for building and maintaining a school house in the Borough of Canonsburg, dated the —— day of August, 1816. Done in Council the 2nd day of July, 1816."

"May 6, 1820, Resolved that a special meeting of Council be held at Joshua Emery's Friday at 5 o'clock to hear Rev. Mr. Gibson on certain charges alledged against Mary Abbel as a nuisance."

Friday, August 25, 1820. By an unanimous vote $50 of the taxes of 1820 "and one hundred dollars of the taxes to be collected off the Borough in 1821 shall be appropriated to Joshua Emery and Geo. McCook expressly for to defray in part the expenses incurred in making a part of the road lately made from the site of the old Market House towards the land of the heirs of Saml. Thompson, dec., which road is a street as far as the Borough line extends." (i. e. West College street.) "Moved that the old Market House be taken down and that a site be fixed upon for building a new one, and that the supervisor give notice to the citizens to meet at the Market House on Saturday 26th inst. to have their voice, as respects the contemplated one."

May 16, 1821. Inquiry having been made for some things formaly kept in the Market House, John Sample and George McFarlane report that the scales, plough and timber of the old Market House, are in the possession of Andrew Munroe.

In February, 1822, it appears that numerous attempts had been made to burn different houses in the town, and that the citizens, for their own safety, had formed the inhabitants into a company of patrol, divided into classes of four each, to patrol the town during the night. The Council confirmed the Act of the Committee of Safety and fined any male taxable citizen two dollars, who refused to serve as patrol, when the turn of his class came.

In May of 1825, the question of bringing the streets to grade was first taken up, and the contract let to Andrew Van Eman to grade Main street between the turnpike and the Borough line at the Mill. This was done after a public meeting held at the Post Office, in which the cost was limited to one cent on the dollar of valuation.

In May, 1827, a resolution of Council was passed granting a strip of land, in perpetuity, between the houses of Hector McFadden and Andrew Munro, 25 by 45 feet, to the persons who subscribed to the erection of the new market house, the upper end to be 20 feet below the house of Hector McFadden, and imposing new regulations for the care of the market, and adding that no meat be sold at any other time than market days, and not before five o'clock A. M. It also admonished the butcher who left the Market last, to put the scales and weights away in the place appointed for their safe keeping.

Hector McFadden lived in the house on the south-east corner of College street and Central avenue, long occupied by Mrs. Ferguson, and Andrew Munro was the step-father

HECTOR McFADDEN'S HOTEL
From a photograph by F. C. Dunlevy

of John E. Black, who succeeded him as postmaster, and lived on the south-west corner of the same streets. There were two Andrew Monros.

Andrew Monro (Nailor) above mentioned, and Andrew Munroe who spelled his name with the addition of the "e", who kept a Tavern which stood on the lot lately owned by William Campbell, dec., nearly opposite the college.

One peculiarity in the tax assessments appears to be that there was no uniformity about the value of a trade or profession. I will cite a few instances:

Rev. Dr. Brown's profession is valued at	$800.00
Dr. Stevenson's profession is valued at	150.00
Dr. Leatherman's profession is valued at	300.00
James McClelland, Trade	150.00
Joshua Emery, Tavern	150.00
John H. Martin, Trade	125.00
Craig Ritchie, Store	200.00
John Watson, Office Justice of Peace	200.00
John Watson, Trade	150.00
Boyd Emery, Student	50.00

In March, 1830, the question of grading and laying side-walks and water courses was first taken up, and in the same year a seal was procured for the Borough.

On August 7th, 1833, parts of Green and Market streets were stoned. Now called Greenside and Central avenues.

"August 27, 1836. On motion resolved that Joseph Parkinson gets the coal bank until the first of April at one dollar and seventy-five cents per hundred bushels and repair the bridge at his own expense."

"Dec. 4, 1837. Resolved, That Hugh Ballentine have the privilege of charging 2½ cents in place of two cents until wages fall: and when they fall the price of coal is to fall accordingly."

After several years discussion, a fire engine was procured in 1840, and a fire company formed to supply the "Hibernia Fire Engine" with water in case of fire, and on all days of training with the engine.

But the citizens seem to have wearied quickly of pumping and carrying water to be squirted at nothing in particular, when this fire engine was "exercised"; and judging from the number and stringency of the resolutions passed to bring them to a realization of their deficiencies, their weariness increased year by year.

In June, 1843, the Council circulated a paper to take the signatures of the citizens for, and against, the purchase of the lot on which the old stone college stood, for a public school; and on March 12th, 1844, the building of said Town House or Town Hall as it was commonly called, was let to Andrew H. Griffin for $1,050.00.

The old books of the Borough of Canonsburg do not contain much of interest to the resident of to-day, unless his ancestors have resided here; but to one interested in the history of the old inhabitants they are full of information. The assesment lists for over fifty years contain the names of every person who had any occupation or who paid tax, and in these lists you will find many of the pioneer residents of the county.

One name struck me as occurring in the records with regularity each year, for the first fifty years of the Borough's existence, and it still occurs, viz:—that of Reynolds C. Neil.

There is much more of interest, to those who like to delve into the past, contained in the books of the Borough, than is here recited; but time forbids to continue. It is history by suggestion rather than by recital. You must let your imagination picture the scene from these brief suggestions. In this short sketch, I have merely

THE WEST WARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On the site of the Old Stone College. Photograph by the Weller Studio

quoted from the books at hand, and indicated the occurrences which called for mention either by ordinance of the Borough Council, or such brief mention of John Canon as occurred in the records of the County and Executive Council of Pennsylvania; preferring to be sure of my ground and quote from the originals verbatim, rather than to rely on local tradition.

Address of David H. Fee

THE "Notes Man" had predicted the Centennial Celebration as early as December 3rd, 1901, and since that time spent his days in writing articles to boom the idea. At night, from his beautiful home on the very summit of Sheep-hill he scanned the heavens for portents, and finding no baleful stars in conjunction, cast the horoscope of the future Canonsburg as follows:

Mr. Chairman, and Fellow Citizens:

We stand to-day upon an eminence which overlooks one hundred years of incorporated community life; a century filled with struggles, but crowned with triumphs of which we have a right to be proud.

From a few straggling log huts on two mud roads, which the "City Fathers" of 1802, strove to dignify by the name of "streets", we have come to be in 1902, a prosperous little city of nearly 5,000 inhabitants. The log huts of the pioneers long since gave way to more commodious and ornate structures, and these are in their turn being replaced by residences of a still more artistic and costly style of architecture. Our streets have increased in number and length, and while we can not boast of their good condition, we can and do "live in hopes" that once the Town Council gets through with the questions connected with a water supply and a system of sewers, they will manfully and courageously tackle the street-paving question.

Wonderful has been the progress of Western Pennsylvania during the century closing with to-day. At its be-

ginning, Pittsburg was but a straggling country town. David Hamilton, great grandfather to the speaker, who settled on "The Rich Hills", in North Strabane township in 1780 and who lived there sixty years, dying in 1840, at the age of 90, used to say that he remembered Pittsburg when it was not larger than Canonsburg; and certainly the Canonsburg of 1825 and of 1830 was not much to boast of in point of size. In 1802 not even a pike connected Canonsburg with Pittsburg. Indeed, at that early day Pittsburg had hardly come to be recognized as the metropolis of Western Pennsylvania. In fact, they were rivals to the honor of being considered the biggest and best town in the "Western Country". A gentleman who travelled through Western Pennsylvania, at about that period and who gave his impressions in one of the Eastern public prints said in speaking of Pittsburg, that "it would never amount to much as it was too near Brownsville." Too near Brownsville!" Think of it.

No, there was no pike in 1802, nor for nearly a quarter of a century later. But once the pike was projected, and it was seen that it was going to be built, great things were predicted for Canonsburg, as a result. "Just wait until the Pike is completed and then you will see the town grow," was the talk among the business men and the owners of real estate and they were right—the town did grow,—but not so rapidly as they predicted. Many years later, these same people, or their successors said, "Oh, if we could only get the Chartiers railroad completed, how this old town of Canonsburg would boom",and they were right—but still the boom did not materialize as soon as some of them expected,—and many of the Fathers died without seeing the Promised Land,—or as we would say in modern parlance,—"they fell outside the breast works." But so true is it, as the poet has told us, "that man never is, but always to be blest," (and the same remark applies to com-

munities as well as to individuals), that with a splendid railroad connecting us with Pittsburg, the trains on which whirl us to the Union Station in 45 minutes, (which time will soon be reduced to 30), we are just as far from being satisfied as were our forefathers with their mud roads, and later their pike and we are trying to induce the Wabash to build a line up the Valley, and are longing for the day when the trolley car shall tread the valley.

1802 appears to have been a big year in the history of the town. Not was only it the year in which Canonsburg was incorporated into a borough; it was also the year in which Old Jefferson College was chartered. And, by the way, the Centennial celebration of the founding of Old Jefferson,—Canonsburg's college, is to be held in the town of Washington during the coming October. "But that is another story".

But it may be that the boom of 1802 was more of a paper-boom than one might suppose possible, considering that the community did not have a printed organ of public opinion for many years thereafter. Colonel Canon was a big man, it must be remembered, in Western Pennsylvania counsels, and his influence no doubt went a long ways. It is probable that one of the principal reasons why Canonsburg was incorporated before some other towns in Western Pennsylvania was that Col. John Canon, the town's founder, was a member of the legislature, and had worked long enough on a mill to understand "log rolling". Proof of the Colonel's influence in the Pennsylvania General Assembly is found in the fact that he succeeded in having Chartiers Creek declared (not made) as some writers have wrongfully asserted, a navigable stream. The tradition, however, that the volume of water in the creek was materially increased by the enactment of the statute, is not substantiated.

TWO VIEWS AFTER THE FIRE OF NOVEMBER 14, 1898
PHOTOGRAPHS BY B. E.

A century is a long period of time, and its days and months and years, afford time for the making of much history. We realize the truthfulness of this statement in some fair measure, when we remember that the College, which was chartered here in 1802, and for which the men and women, of the community prayed and gave and labored so faithfully, and which graduated such a host of good and great men, whose influence will be felt in ever-widening circles, as long as time shall last, arose, flourished, and passed away, more than thirty years before the completion of the century. The removal of the College, however was not the unmixed evil which it appeared to be at the time. Even there the law of Compensation, of which Emerson has so beautifully and truthfully written, still obtained. The town never really began to grow and prosper in a material way until after the College had been united with the sister institution at Washington.

The men and women who planted the banner of civilization in the Western wilderness, a century and a quarter ago, were firm belevers in three institutions, viz., the home, the Church and the School. And no sooner had they erected the log cabin and founded a home than they began to take thought for the establishment of a place of public worship. And Rev. McMillan and Rev. Dr. Mathew Henderson, were men approved of God and selected by men to carry the Word of Life to the earnest, faithful people who first settled this region; and theirs were literally the voices of men crying in the Wilderness, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." The men and women of the early days,—"airly days", Whitcomb Riley would call them,—were of strong faith. There was no "halting between two opinions," with them. Like Paul they knew on whom they had believed. With them the Bible from lid to lid was the Word of God; heaven a literal city with gates of pearls and streets paved with gold of the kind that dol-

lars are made of, and hell a place of literal fire and brimstone. These things are believed, because their Bibles and their preachers said they were true. And they had no disposition to doubt either. Indeed, it was not an age of doubt, but an age of belief, and the belief made strong men and women, and laid the foundations for the christian civilization, which as a community, is our chief blessing to-day. When disposed to speak slightingly of the narrowness and crudeness and literalness of the lives and creeds of the pioneers, let us think of their labors, and of the great blessings, material, social, intellectual and moral which they have bequeathed us; and uncover in honor of their memories.

As the traveller pauses when his weary feet have reached at last, the summit of some lofty range of hills and gazes back along the road over which his dust-covered feet have travelled; and then faces forward, and fronts still loftier heights, which yet remain to be scaled, so we to-day are interested in looking back over the way along which we as a community have travelled during the past hundred years.

But, while we are interested in looking backward, we are still more interested in looking forward; in peering into the future. And at least one reason for this is plain. The story of the past has been told. What has been writ has been writ, and no power human or Divine may change it; but the story of the future is unwritten and we can picture it as taking anyone of a thousand different forms which the fancy may dictate. The future has the fascination of the mysterious, of the unknown. And, to-day interested as we are in the story of the past, we cannot forbear trying to peep over and under the curtain which shuts us out from the future, and read the story which fate has locked in her strong box for the people who shall be on the stage of action and of the Canonsburg Opera House, on the 22nd of February, 2002.

What changes have taken place since 1802? Then the people of the community, surrounded by almost interminable forests and in the midst of a struggle for existence, were putting forth every effort to found in the wilderness a school devoted to the higher education; in which their sons might be trained for honorable, useful and influential lives, and this not so much in order that they might be successful in a material way, as that they might be instrumental in extending the kingdom of God and advancing the welfare of men. At the close of the century what do we find? Well, among other things this: The college, founded by the pioneers, has arisen, flourished and passed from us, and its influence while still felt in the community has largely ceased to be, and it is material instead of intellectual, development that is claiming the attention of the people. We are building and operating iron and steel mills, and bridge works, and potteries, and stove works, and coal mines, and we are projecting trolley lines and competing lines of steam railways. Instead of streets crowded with students on their way to and from recitations, we see an army of brawny, honest workmen, carrying dinner pails as they hurry to and from the mills and mines. The soot and smoke from the furnaces darken the sky, and the clang of machinery jars upon the nerves of the few remaining persons of leisure as they take their morning constitutionals. And as the Right Reverend John R. Paxton remarked in an address a few years since: "where once death-like silence reigned from dusk to dawn, now the visitor to his native town is aroused by the whistle of the iron and steel mill at the ungodly hour of 2 A. M."

What will the future bring to us? We cannot tell. Let us hope that she will deal kindly with us, as taken as a whole the past has dealt.

That there is to be great material expansion and development in the coming years, we think it is safe to pre-

ing years, Canonsburg may have many sons and daughters who shall make her name glorious in all the professions, including literature, and may they never forget when they journey from home to register from "Canonsburg" and not write "Pittsburg", after their names as some of the leading lights of the present day.

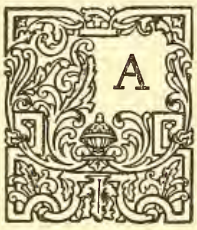
And the Church what shall we say of it? What can we say of it that will do justice to the subject? In Canonsburg, the Church has been a controlling influence from the earliest days. Without the Church, Canonsburg would not be Canonsburg. Men of intellectual and moral force, who have lived in this place or vicinity, and who have also been well acquainted with many other widely scattered communities, bear testimony to the fact that they have found here a moral atmosphere and a devotion to the cause of Christianity which they have not met with elsewhere. This is a reputation of which we should be proud and which we should strive to maintain. Some people say that the Church costs too much money,—more money than she is worth,—but that is wrong. The Church is worth ten times what she costs to this, or any other community. Try to imagine what this community would be without the Church. You cannot. It would be a little section of perdition on earth. Our conception of Christianity is broader and deeper than was that of the pioneers. Our creeds, if they have not yet been revised in the books, have been revised in the minds and hearts of the men and women who profess them, and we realize, and the pioneers did not, that love to man is but another form of love to God; and we are ready to heed the good Quaker poet when he says to us:

> "Hold fast your Puritan heritage,
> But let the free thought of the age,
> Its light and hope and sweetness add,
> To the stern faith the fathers had."

To-day at high noon the bells and whistles announced that the town was one hundred years old as a borough, and already the new century has crowded out the old. The glories of the past and the glories of the present, will be dimmed with the passing years. Year will follow hard upon year, and decade upon decade. The generations will quickly come and go, but Canonsburg shall not perish, but endure and flourish, as long as the spirit of the fathers animates their sons.

"And cast in some diviner mould,
May the new cycle shame the old."

Address of Rev. J. M. Work



AFTER the conclusion of Mr. Fee's address and a selection from the orchestra, Rev. J. M. Work made an address as follows: "I am glad this last piece of music was so long and good, for it will make up for the rest of the programme. One hundred and seventy years ago to-day Geo. Washington was born, and 100 years ago to-day this town was born in the eyes of the law, and according to the authority of the state. The circumstances that surrounded those men are very different from the circumstances that surround us. At that time the nation was just starting. One hundred years ago would put you back into the administration of Jefferson and to the first Town Council of Canonsburg. That council was organized two years and four months after the death of Geo. Washington. In 1802 Ohio was admitted into the Union, and in 1789, when Washington took the oath of office on Wall street, on the 30th of April, Dr. John McMillan was then running his Log Cabin College. Then they had neither week-day nor Sunday papers, bringing the news from all over the world. They had no telegraph. They had natural gas, but they didn't have it. They lived on the top of the ground, and not under it as we do.

"We owe a great deal to those who came here with a Bible in one hand and the log cabin college in the other. Possibly the great glory of this town lies in the history of Jefferson College, for all through the life of the college, men were graduating who became mighty in the law and also in the gospel.

"Jefferson College has sent her men into the highest places in life. Certainly we would not forget those who have done so much for us. Suppose those pioneers had come without their Bibles and their religion, what would have been the result? Their legacy to us and ours would have been very different. I doubt if there were as many people in Canonsburg 100 years ago as there are here this afternoon. But whether many or few, let us not forget the debt of gratitude we owe them. The people are interested, and they are going to be more interested on the 26th of June. On that day we expect the history of the town to be given in full, and the honor will be given to whom honor is due. Lincoln was once asked how long a man's legs ought to be, and he said, 'They ought to reach from the body to the ground at least.' I think that a speech ought to reach from the beginning to the end, and mine has almost reached the end.

"But I wish to say this, in honor of those who were here at 'the beginning of things.' They did their work well. They built upon the foundation stones of righteousness and truth. It can truly be said of such men, 'they can not expire.' "

> " These shall resist the empire of decay,
> When time is o'er, and worlds have passed away;
> Cold in the dust the perished heart may lie,
> But that which warmed it once can never die."

After Mr. Work's remarks, Mr. T. M. Potts, vice-chairman of the Central Committee, and in its behalf, asked of council its official sanction for the proceedings of the day, and also requested that to the committee, as outlined in Mr. W. B. Chambers' report, be committed the charge and management of the future arrangements for a larger and more complete celebration of the founding of the town to be held on June 26th, 1902.

In accordance with the suggestion a resolution was offered and passed entrusting to the committee, on behalf of the borough council, the full responsibility and power to arrange for the Centennial Exercises, after which the meeting adjourned with the singing of our national hymn.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION

OF THE

BOROUGH OF CANONSBURG

HELD ON THE

Campus of Jefferson College
June 26, 1902

Including the Speeches at the Unveiling of the Memorial Tablet in Honor

OF

JOHN CANON

AT THE

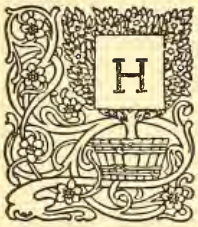
NEW BOROUGH BUILDING

LISTENING TO THE SPEECHES. JUNE 26, 1902

THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY BACK OF THE SPEAKERS STAND IS THE OLD LOG COLLEGE

PHOTOGRAPH BY THE WELLER STUDIO

Centenary Centennial



AVING had a small taste of Centennial Celebration on the 22nd of February, the Canonsburgers seemed to like the sample they had had, and prepared to go into the larger event with full enthusiasm. The executive committee held regular weekly meetings and discussed the attractions to be procured, the entertainment to be provided, and how to feed and house the people. The committee on date of celebration fixed Thursday, June 26th, 1902, and decided that it would be better to fill one day so full that it must inevitably run over a little, than attempt two days of festivity. Rules of procedure were adopted for the guidance of all committees, such as Finance, Reception, Music, Concessions, etc. On March 24th, at the meeting of the committee, Dr. John B. Donaldson reported that the following speakers had been selected: Rev. Dr. John R. Paxton, D.D.; poem by Rev. David R. Miller, D.D.; historical address, Blaine Ewing, Esq., and an address by Rev. Mathew Brown Riddle, D.D. On March 31st, on motion of D. H. Fee, a committee was appointed of which Mr. Fee was chairman, to find if possible the location of the residence of John Canon, for the purpose of erecting a tablet to mark the spot.

Almost at the inception of the idea to hold a centennial, a communication was received from some of the descendents of John Canon offering to present a memorial tablet to the municipality in memory of their illustrious ancestor, if a suitable location could be secured. After some discus-

sion it was decided to erect the tablet on the new Borough building, as being peculiarly appropriate, to the memory of the man who owned the land upon which the town was built, and the donors were notified that the committee would gladly receive the tablet and provide a suitable location. Thomas Patterson, Esq., of the Pittsburg Bar, was chosen to present the Canon Memorial Tablet to the town.

As a means of notifying the world that we intended to celebrate in right royal fashion, appropriate letter heads bearing pictures of the old log cabin college and various industries of the town were struck off and were widely circulated by the citizens and business men using them in their correspondence.

The privilege of selling souvenir buttons and badges was awarded to S. Clark Smith, and a book containing numerous and handsome half-tones of the business houses, residences and public buildings of the town, and the pictures of many of its prominent citizens, was gotten up and sold on a private enterprise.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania suggested that as our Centennial embraced so large a part of the pioneer history of our county, that their society be accorded official recognition. This idea was most gladly acceded to, and Rev. A. A. Lambing, D.D., President of the society, was requested to be present on that day and take part in sketching the history of the westward march of civilization and industrial conquest.

To enumerate all the occurrences in committee would weary the readers, but the minutes are evidence of one thing at least, that the old town did not intend to be caught napping, short of provisions or reception committees, speakers or lunch counters on that great day, when the crowds should come.

The committees sent out hundreds of invitations to the old inhabitants and their friends, and even "a friend of me' friend's friend," was welcome on that day, and if he could

lay claim to any of the blood-royal of the old inhabitants, he was the guest of the town, and the best to be had was his without the asking.

After the town had spent much money in decorations, the houses festooned with flags and bunting and the streets spanned with arches galore, upon the night of the day before the celebration it started to rain. There were many forebodings for the morrow, but we even had a committee on weather. Early on the morning of the 26th a meeting of the weather committee was held, whereat were present C. C. Johnson, Samuel Munnell, Sr., and Wm. B. Chambers, and after solemn discussion decided that the celebration should go on. The decorations looked somewhat bedraggled when wet, but a brisk wind starting up, they showed that they were of the same quality as the morals of the early settlers, they didn't come out in the wash, and by the time our visitors began to arrive, the old town found itself in such a dress of glad clothes as has never been seen in the valley before or since.

But to tell of it all would be a waste of time. If you were there to meet old friends and renew acquaintanceships, broken off perhaps in the long ago, to see the loyal sons and daughters of the town come trooping back, it were folly to try to describe it. If you were not there, no language at my command could convey any competent idea. To be seen scattered through this book are pictures that may recall a few familiar scenes, but no sensitive silver spread on the photographic plate, can picture the bracing atmosphere, the ambient air, or the beauty of the eternal hills dressed in living green.

The speeches, indeed, are here for your perusal and profit if you choose to read them, but any attempt to convey to the friends afar off any competent idea, to enumerate the family reunions, the reminiscences that were recounted, or the guests entertained, would seem cold and formal in comparison with the reality.

The Great Day

The morning of centennial day, long expected and prepared for, arrived at last. Despite the heavy rain of the previous evening, it dawned bright and clear, with a refreshing breeze blowing. The rain had merely cleared the air, washed the face of nature for the great event, and thoroughly laid the dust. Instead of spoiling the day it merely enhanced the beauty of the scene and made the green hills around Canonsburg fairly glisten under the bright, clear sky and June sun.

With the coming of daylight the visitors began to arrive, by every means of conveyance known to the road, and the railroads soon added to the crowd with trains full to the platforms. At 6 A. M. bells had been rung and whistles screeched a welcome to those who had already come and hurried on the leisurely visitor, fearing he might be too late. And the crowds arrived. From a town of 4,000 people we were suddenly raised to a population of 10,000 people or more, with streets crowded and vehicles moving in every direction.

A careful canvass of the restaurants and accommodations for visitors had been made, and the central committee had issued a thousand meal tickets for its guests. Every arrangement that foresight could make or hospitality suggest had been made for the entertainment of the invited guests, speakers, and visiting organizations that helped to swell the parade. It was a day of old-fashioned hospitality, where one of the requisites to enjoyment is always a full meal. All the citizens kept open house and there were few who did not find some friend glad to accept the invitation, "Come and take dinner with me."

The descendents of Colonel Canon were provided for as guests of the town, and those who had passed the meridian of life were met in carriages and conveyed wherever they wished. A room had been set aside for their special conven-

ANOTHER VIEW OF CROWDS AROUND THE SPEAKERS STAND
JUNE 26, 1902.

ience, with attendant in charge to look after their wants, and every courtesy possible was shown them. Here they met and became acquainted, or renewed old friendships and told stories of the olden time.

And with the crowd came the genial fakir—as necessary and adjunct to a crowd (if it wants to enjoy itself), as peanuts to a circus, loud of attire often and with brazen lungs, he sold buttons, canes and souvenirs—each one the only authorized and genuine article, and kept things moving in his department.

Program

The following is the program for Centennial Day Exercises :

6 A. M.—Ringing of Bells and Blowing Whistles.
9 A. M.—Starting of the Parade.
10 A. M.—Reunion Canon Descendants.
12 Noon.—Balloon Ascension.
1 P. M.—Presentation of Canon Mural Tablet, at Borough Building.
2 P. M.—Exercises at College Campus.
6 P. M.—Balloon Ascension.
7 to 9 P. .M.—Concerts by Bands.

Afternoon Program

Following is the program of the exercises held on the College campus :

Music, Band.
Invocation, Rev. W. F. Brown.
Music, Band.
Address, S. Blaine Ewing, Esq.
Music, Glee Club.
Address, Rev. Dr. John R. Paxton.

Music, Band.
Poem, Rev. D. R. Miller, D. D.
Music, Glee Club.
Address, Rev. M. B. Riddle, D. D.
Music, Band.
Address, Rev. W. A. Lambing, LL. D.
Music, Band.

Evening Program

Program for evening concert, June 26, by the Municipal Band, of Washington, Pa., J. H. Dever, Director.

March,	"Chicago Marine Band,"	*Seitz*
Selection,	"The Little Duchess,"	*DeKoven*
Comique,	"Scandels Douis,"	*Keeble*
Waltz,	"For-get-me-not,"	*Brooks*
Dance (characteristic),	"True Love,"	*Kretschun*
Fantasia,	"Southern Memories,"	*Hecker*
Serenade,	"Old Church Organ,"	*Seitz*
March (complimentary)	"The Batchelor Maids,"	*St. Clair*

The parade was made up of many military, civic and other organizations, and would have done credit to a town many times the size of Canonsburg. The business men had responded to the efforts of our genial chairman, W. B. Chambers, and put in the parade floats, vans, and wagons gaily decorated and ornamented with flags, bunting and brilliant colors, or glistening with the merchandise and products of each house or factory. During the parade thousands of people lined the streets. The line of march was taken up on West Pike street and moved over the various streets of the town, an enumeration of which need not be made here. If, however, this account should survive far

into the future it might be of interest to know the composition of the parade. The procession moved in the following order:

Chief Marshall, W. H. Paxton,
Capt. Lon M. Porter, Chief-of-Staff and Aides,
G. A. R. Band of Pittsburg,
Paxton Post No. 126, G. A. R.,
Veterans of the Spanish and Philippine War,
John H. Paxton Camp, Sons of Veterans,
Carriages Containing Speakers and Members of Centennial Committee,
The Borough Council,
Washington Military Band,
Company H, Tenth Regiment, N. G. P.,
Local Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Guenther's Brass Band,
Pennsylvania Reform School Band,
Reform School Boys, 350 Strong,
Thompsonville Cornet Band,
Canonsburg Fire Company,
Wagons Containing "Girls of 1902,"
The Fairies (a Load of Little Girls),
The Brownies (a Load of Small Boys),
Columbia and the Thirteen Original States,
The Six Rural Mail Carriers,

and more than fifty floats and decorated wagons, representing the different mills, factories, industries and commercial establishments of the town, impossible of description here, a list of which, taken from the next edition of the Canonsburg Notes, is appended:

"Some of the floats were remarkable creations, and represented much time and expense on the part of the firms represented by them. The following firms had floats in the parade: M. Bernstein, represented by an old Conestoga wagon; Manufacturers' Gas Company, Alex. Speer, furniture; Philadelphia Gas Company, miniature oil derrick, with steam engine running and drill at work; George Hiles, saddler, a splendid design; J. W. Hiles, shoes, a cleverly constructed outfit; W. J. Elliott, hardware; W. H. Taylor, groceries; Stumpert, bakery; Adams & Newton, gents' furnishings; S. A. Crozier, dry goods, a ship run by unseen power, one of the best floats in line; Potts Bros., grocers; Heinz's pickles; City Meat Market; John T. Thompson, blacksmith and horseshoer, with horse on board; Simpson Stove Company, stoves and ranges made in Canonsburg; Canonsburg Milling Co., flour; W. H. & Joseph Heagen, grocers; J. A. Hilfiger & Sons, groceries; the Daily Notes, with newsboys aboard; G. W. Colwell, marble dealer, design, a grave with head and footstone, etc.; H. L. Cockins, furniture; George C. McPeake, real estate, with design of miniature plat of lots; R. W. Gibbs, barber shop in operation; W. V. White & Co., groceries; Home Supply Co., groceries, etc.; H. B. Thompson, florist; H. M. Layburn, confectioner; Briceland & Jackson, shoes; W. T. Reynolds, musical instruments, a clever design; I. N. Hughes, druggist; baseball team, fruit dealers, etc.

It would be unfair to make special mention of any one or more of the floats; all were excellent and the parade feature was an immense success. Nothing here ever approached it before and nothing will soon approach it again."

A VIEW OF THE PARADE

Looking west on Pike Street. Photo by the Weller Studio

ADDRESS OF

THOMAS PATTERSON, ESQ.

Delivered at the

UNVEILING OF THE MURAL TABLET

In Memory of

COLONEL JOHN CANON

Founder of the

Town of Canonsburg and Donor of the land upon which
he built the Old Stone Academy
A. D. 1791

Which was in 1802 Incorporated
as

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

THOMAS PATTERSON, ESQ.

Address of Thomas Patterson, Esq.

The presentation of the tablet in memory of Colonel John Canon had been set for one o'clock P. M. The parade was scarcely over until it was time to hurry off to hear the exercises, and some of us had scant time to do justice to the bountiful dinners which the hostesses of Canonsburg had provided. But true to his training as a good attorney, and in keeping with the traditions of the family, promptly at one o'clock, Thomas Patterson, Esq., of Pittsburg, arose to unveil the tablet in memory of his illustrious great grandfather, and on behalf of the numerous descendants of the worthy founder of our town, presented the memorial to the burgess and town council, assembled on the platform beside him. A platform had been erected before the new borough building, and from this he addressed the council and a large audience of citizens and distinguished strangers, as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Citizens of the Town of Canonsburg and Visitors Within Its Gates:

I am here to-day as one of the descendants of Col. John Canon, the founder of the town, whose name it bears, to present to you on behalf of those descendants, the bronze tablet to his memory which is placed upon the walls of your town hall, and also in their name to thank you for the opportunity of doing this thing, and for the appreciation which your gathering here shows of him whose life something more than one hundred ago was identified with that of the community and the college.

While recognizing this kindly motive for your attention and presence, I should be blind, indeed, if I did not see

there something more than this, something which shows an appreciation of the value of the historic past, and of the name not of one man only, but of all the men of that mighty past, who stood for education and truth and freedom, and who have made this region the seat of mental and moral movements which have been far-reaching beyond the power of man to estimate or measure. It is, therefore, not merely as a descendant of Col. Canon that I would speak to you, but recognizing the present as the happy occasion of linking together the past, and the present, to pass beyond the theme merely of his life and work, and if I may, add to the merely personal features of this sketch something of the time that is past, and something of what it meant.

It is, perhaps, the most singular thing connected with the theme before us that we know so little of the details of the life of Col. Canon. He lived and died here, he twice married and had a number of children, most of whom dwelt in the neighborhood and in their turn married and left children to survive them, and so again until the third, fourth and fifth generation of his descendants are represented here, yet amongst all these there is but little left of tradition or account as to what manner of man their ancestor really was. We are ignorant even of his birthplace and his family history. It is rumored that he came from Virginia, and in view of his relations with Washington, as well as his loyal defense of the Virginia titles, this supposition does not seem unreasonable. It seems probable that he came here as one of the colonists hurried forward from Maryland and Virginia by Lord Dunmore, the governor of the latter State, to occupy and hold this territory, under the military protection of Col. Cresap. At all events, we learn from the history of Washington County that, with the exception of his appointment by the Court of Westmoreland County to act as viewer of the road from Mt. Braddock to Chartiers Creek, his first appearance of record is as holding Dunmore's commission as one of the judges of Augusta County, which

under the claims of Virginia extended to the Ohio river. Dunmore is charged with having sent these colonists and the military force, which guarded them, out here for the purpose of bringing on war with the Indian tribes along the Ohio river, with the ultimate and sinister object of making these tribes the enemies of the colonists in the struggle which he foresaw would shortly ensue between them and the crown. The fact that shortly afterwards such a war with the Indians, known as Cresap's war, did break out, started by the ever to be regretted murder of Logan's family—a murder, however, for which Col. Cresap should not be blamed—certainly seem to lend color to this view. In addition to stirring up trouble with the hitherto friendly Delawares, Dunmore also did his best to set the colonies of Pennsylvania and Virginia by the ears, seizing Fort Pitt with a strong force under Dr. Connally, and causing it to be rechristened Fort Dunmore, to the great anger and distress of the good citizens of our State. They were troublous times for the settler in Washington County, with the tomahawk dug up by the red men and the white neighbors, who were his natural friends and allies, exasperated to the point of open warfare by the high-handed action of the royal governor.

That in all these times Col. Canon acted the part of a good patriot and was not involved in the machinations of the governor is shown by the fact that in 1777, two years after Dunmore and Connally had slipped away in their man-of-war, he was chosen colonel of the Washington County Militia, and was afterwards appointed sub-lieutenant of the county under Col. James Marshall.

The red slayers were too close at hand in those days and too greatly exasperated by the artifices of Dunmore to permit many of the men able to carry arms to leave the county to serve at the front; but such aid as could be rendered in sending provisions and supplies to the army in the field was given, and in this work Col. Canon is reported to

have been prominent and effective. That he took an active part in the operations against the Indians is also matter of history, and indeed to have held the position of colonel of the militia and sub-lieutenant of the county in those days, when every man was a soldier, necessarily entailed the duties of active command, and required unquestioned courage, endurance and loyalty.

From one unfounded charge, in this connection, his name has been cleared, and it is only necessary to refer to it because at one time the story was circulated that he had been one of the leaders in the movement against the Moravian Indians, which ended in the deplorable massacre of these Christianized people at Gnadenhutten. This charge has been completely disproved, and ample retraction made.

At some time prior to 1781, Col. Canon had had surveyed to him the tract of 1,200 acres where the town of Canonsburg now stands, and which appears to have been even at that early day the point of intersection of two roads and to the prophetic eye of the pioneer a location of promise. While we do not know the date of the building of the mill, we know it must have been prior to the date mentioned, for in that year viewers were appointed to view a road "From John Canon, his mill, to Pittsburg."

Incredible as it may seem to us to-day, two boatloads of flour, so the story vouched for by his daughter, Mrs. Robert Patterson, goes, were taken down Chartiers in the flood water, and so on down the river to New Orleans. Probably this was done only in a spirit of half humorous enterprise and of showing some of the possibilities of the country and location.

In 1787 he still further proved his faith by his works and laid out a town near Canon Hill, which taking its name from its founder, was called Canonsburg. Here the forefathers of the hamlet wrestled with the forest, cleared their fields, builded their houses, watched against Indian forays, little thinking that the town they tore out of the heart of

the wilderness would one day be famous as the great seat of education west of the Alleghenies.

Four years after that there was a movement inaugurated for the purpose of putting the academy, which had for some time maintained a struggling existence, upon a more substantial footing. The story is familiar to you all, how it was first offered to the founder of Washington, who could not see his way clear to do anything for it, and how Col. Canon gave a lot for the site of the college, and afterwards put up for them the original stone building, to be repaid for the latter as and when the trustees might have the means at their command to do so.

It is because I would speak later on more fully of this great work that I must pass rapidly over other events.

It was not only his own affairs that Col. Canon had to take in charge, for on November 30th, 1786, George Washington appointed him his attorney in fact to manage his then large property interests in this neighborhood. The power of attorney is still preserved, but unfortunately most of the correspondence has been lost or destroyed, a sacrifice to that spirit of cleaning up which marks the American household.

His own interests, as well as those of his principal, Gen. Washington, were closely identified with Virginia. It is little wonder then that we find him stoutly arrayed on the side of that state, and although directed, on April 2nd, 1781, by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania to call out forty men of the militia to act as guard for the commissioners appointed to run the line between Pennsylvania and Virginia, his resistance to the measure was so vigorous as to call forth a sharp remonstrance from his chief, Col. Marshall, the Lieutenant of the County.

The latter wrote to President Reed of the Supreme Executive Council, under date of June 5th, "Mr. Canon (a civil officer under the government of Virginia) one of our sub-lieutenants, publicly declares that government have infringed upon the rights of the people in appointing officers

for them before they were represented, and instead of assisting me in organizing the militia, is using all his influence in preventing it. . . . In a word Mr. Pentecost and Mr. Canon are ringleaders of sedition, and are doing everything in their power to revive the jurisdiction of Virginia."

We do not know how the matter was finally adjusted, but from what we know of the Colonel I think we are justified in assuming that they had to sit on his head until the procession got safely past. The story of the whiskey insurrection has been told so often and so well as to need only a passing mention. How the farmers of this district were unable to market their grain across the mountains by reason of the long and expensive haul, how they were forced to convert it into whiskey as being the only portable commodity they could manufacture, and how the Federal Excise tax destroyed all profit on even this limited industry are familiar to all. The character of the people upon whom this blow fell was of a kind which rendered them peculiarly disposed to rebellion. They had never been in bondage to any man. Living with rifle in hand, self-reliant, self-sustaining, they followed and obeyed leaders of their own choosing, and only those so long as their sovereign pleasure willed it. The land was theirs, they had driven the Indian and cleared the forest from the face of it. The crops were theirs, for in the sweat of their brows they had sown and harvested them. By their own hands, they had converted the product of their land into another form. Could it then be credited that a something called a Federal Government three hundred miles away, should have the right to stop them between the farm and the market place, and levy a ruinous toll on this that was their very own?

People of the Anglo-Saxon race have ever been prone to resent by something more than words that which they believe to be an invasion of their rights, and these were people with whom the thought and the act lay very close together. Protests being unheeded, violence soon followed.

COLUMBIA AND THE THIRTEEN ORIGINAL STATES

PHOTOGRAPH BY THE WELLER STUDIO

How the mail was stopped and the mail bag opened; how Mr. Neville's house was attacked and burned; how the insurgents were summoned to arms; and how the whole movement collapsed with the appearance of the Federal troops. Are not all these things written in the book of the chronicles of Western Pennsylvania. In all these things Col. Canon took an important, and to his credit be it said, an undisguised part. He was present that night in the tavern at Canonsburg when the mail was opened, and his is the first name signed to the famous call for the armed gathering at Braddock's Field, on August 1st, 1794.

If it be true, as some assert, that Alexander Hamilton brought on the trouble, or rather forced it to a head in order that he might demonstrate the existence of a National Government, it certainly must be conceded that he accomplished his purpose. The young nation that had so recently seated itself in Philadelphia, struck but once and needed not to strike a second time, and it was many long years afterwards before men dared to talk openly of the thing called rebellion. But whatever Hamilton's plans may have been, his great chief was too close to the people of this section to deal harshly with them after the law was vindicated. Were they not bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh? He knew the manner of men they were, their hot rage, their impatience with what they conceived to be oppression, their unwillingness to submit to bit or bridle. Even their faults were dear to him, and so very gently as one might chide an erring child, he taught them their duty, and then let the whole matter drop back into its place as an object lesson, knowing well that new issues and new conditions would soon make it but a memory.

Four years afterwards, on November 6th, 1798, in his fifty-eighth year, Col. Canon passed from this life. The scroll of what he did, of his errors and his achievements, is soon written. Brief as it is we gather this much that he was a man of his time and people. His faults and his vir-

tues were those of the men about him. There were giants in those days, and this perhaps is the highest tribute we can pay to his memory that among his fellows he was given a place of prominence and they looked upon him as a leader. The men of that day, who made up the fringe of civilization, while they suffered the loss of the refinements and culture of the older centers had their compensation in the development of a ready and courageous manhood. Put the tape line on them where you will and you will find strong sinew and swelling muscle. On the world's firing line there was no place for the coward or the weakling. All things to them were possible, all forms of energy were theirs, whether it was clearing the forests or tilling the fields, meeting an Indian attack or leading a foray on a Pennsylvania town, sending flour to New Orleans or settling the boundary between two great states, flinging defiance at the Federal Government or founding a college, all came naturally to hand, and all this they did simply and strongly by virtue of their great manhood. And all this that they did, they did in the open—in the light of the noonday sun. Those that were pleased might applaud, and those who blamed might criticise, they recked nothing of either blame or criticism, thoughtful only of the work to which they had set their hands and how it might be made perfect.

The workman dies but his work goes on. Of all the work to which Col. Canon put his hand, that which most greatly lived after him, that which speaks in loudest tongue the praise of him and his generation is the founding of Jefferson College. They did a work there, the men of that far off day, the effect of which they could but dimly foresee and appreciate, and which now none but God can measure. Without a word of depreciation for the institution which has taken its place, and which is doing a great and noble work, as a descendant of the founder of Jefferson, and the son of one of its graduates and professors who loved it as he loved his life, I may be pardoned if I dwell thoughtfully upon its memory.

That its graduates have entered upon and graced every honorable walk of life, that its Alumni have been justices of Supreme Courts, governors, cabinet officers, statesmen, in a word have taken the highest honors and filled the highest positions which our civic life affords, does not by any means indicate the extent or the character of the results of the life of that great institution. In how many un-cymballed pulpits, in how many quiet Christian homes, in how many offices and counting rooms have the graduates of old Jefferson stood for the great truths of head and heart that were taught them within those walls above us. For two-thirds of a century she stood for all that is best in educational work, and to her support not many rich and mighty contributed, but the farmer and mechanic, the toiling men and the toiling women of this community gave that which they could but ill afford to spare, and the giving of which had to be made up for by other economies; and to her service a band of scholarly gentlemen gave their time as professors at salaries which a skilled laborer of the day would reject as an insult. And from her doors there went forth year by year classes of men trained to the highest work of the brain and the noblest thought of the soul, who in their turn have passed on to others the light which they received, and so in ever increasing circles its training has told and in its influence has been felt.

In these days when the standard and measure of all success seem to be the accumulation of wealth, when the millionaire is eclipsed only by the multi-millionaire, there is something in the heroic story of Jefferson College which speaks in a different tongue, that expresses itself in values that cannot be transmuted into gold, a story of hardship and privatation and toil freely and gladly given for the sake of truth and knowledge. But think not of her as dead, write not over her portals "Ishabod," think of her rather as living and increasing in the hearts of our children and of their children down the long years. And write over her gates her true inscription—

"Her children shall rise up and call her blessed."

Reply of Thomas Reese

The speech of acceptance in behalf of the Borough of Canonsburg was made by Thomas Reese, Chairman of Council, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Patterson and the other descendants of Col. John Canon here assembled:

As the representatives of the corporate authorities of the Borough of Canonsburg, it affords me great pleasure to extend you greeting; to welcome you as the honored guests of this borough on this occasion; to be able to say to you that to-day the town is yours as it was once that of your illustrious progenitor over one hundred years ago.

To-day, our people accept you as the rightful owners of the borough, they concede that your title to it is more clear and more enduring than it could be in any legal instrument because it has descended to you in the stronger bond of blood relationship to its founder. We meekly submit that your power is supreme in Canonsburg to-day. Do as you may, say what you wish, we dare not molest you. Canonsburg is yours. Take it and do with it as you will. Descendants of Col. John Canon, let me say to you that, many times, within the last one hundred years have the people of our classic old town had cause to feel proud of the honors bestowed upon it. To old Jefferson College and its long list of eminent graduates, do we owe much for these honors. It was your distinguished ancestor who donated the site upon which this noble institution was built and for years it stood a splendid and imposing monument to his beneficient generosity and the indefatigable labors of his compatriot pioneers. But now, that the college, with all its

CANONSBURG COUNCIL IN 1892

pleasing memories, is gone, we have naught remaining but its silent walls, which, sooner or later, must crumble under the effects of the different elements to which it is exposed. You to-day have come forward and presented to the vested authorities of this municipality for its safe guarding and preservation, a tablet that you earnestly wish and as we fervently pray may be more enduring than the walls of the edifice once known as Jefferson College. It has remained for you, worthy descendants of a worthy sire, to confer upon Canonsburg the greatest honor ever bestowed upon it.

It is a source of extreme gratification to me to accept in behalf of the local government and the good people of our town, this memorial; though I fear that any attempt of mine to express their appreciation would fall far short of that purpose. Dedicated, as it is, to the memory of Col. John Canon, founder of this town and donor of the site of Jefferson College, I can pledge you the faith of our people that that sacred design shall not be lost sight of; that the lofty sentiment it inspires shall ever be kept uppermost in our minds. This, to us, I assure you, will be a most pleasing and, at the same time, a most religious duty; a duty we believe that will be very obediently performed by those who will follow us.

To jealously care for and preserve it to those who succeed us, will be our first and most important obligation, so that when the time comes that we must shuffle off this earth, it shall remain without any blemish or stain of unfulfilled promises.

In the name of the people of Canonsburg, I again most sincerely thank you.

OLD SEAL OF BOROUGH OF
CANONSBURG

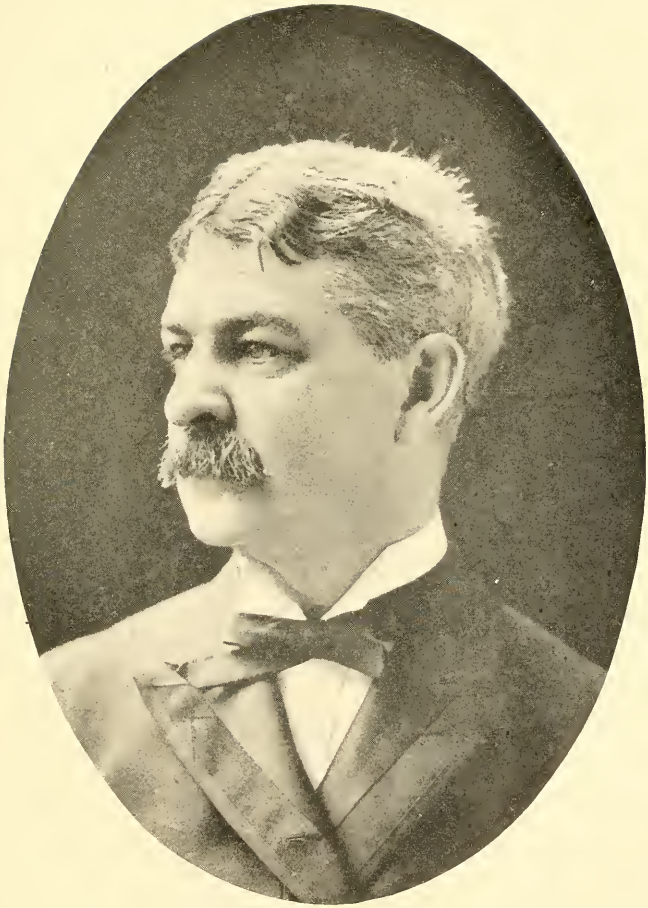
ADDRESS OF

JOHN R. PAXTON, D. D.

Delivered at the

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF CANONSBURG, PA.

JUNE 26, 1902



JOHN R. PAXTON, D. D.

Address of Dr. John R. Paxton.

FELLOW native born, adopted citizens and curious strangers, lured hither by that glory of our old town of which fame has long since taken charge. For you all the old burg has a cordial greeting, a hospitable welcome,—three brass bands and triumphal arches galore.

Well, it is so, this our old town Guntown, like Barney Macroby, has completed its century of corporate existence, and has passed its one hundredth year.

I usually speak of it as Guntown, it is a shorter name than Canonsburg and means the same thing, for all canons are guns. I mean no disrespect to Col. John Canon, our illustrious founder. From all accounts, Col. John Canon was a good sized son of a gun himself, with a long range and of a big bore. It appears that Col. John was about the whole thing hereabouts,—from 1770 till his death in 1799. He must have been as much of a hustler as Acheson, and as shrewd as Quay in managing the machine of his day, for he was always in some office and never out of power in either state or national affairs in this county while he lived.

George Washington was his guest up in his home on Sheep Hill or which ever one it was. Philadelphia knew him, often saw his rugged but striking countenance, and heard his passionate appeals for money and arms to fight the Indians on the frontier.

He was our first Justice of the Peace, and Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; our first representative to the State Legislature or Council. He wrote all the wills, surveyed all the lands, drew all conveyances. In a word,—

he was It, the one big pebble on the Shurtee's shore,—as the immortal father of his country called Chartiers Creek,—Shurtees or Shirt-tail.

If there was no salt in all the country to cure bacon and pickle beef and venison, Col. John secured an order of court to seize all public salt in Alexandria, Virginia, and contract for its carriage to the Monongahela River and thence to Washington County. And salt was salt in 1780 out in this region. It took a good cow and her calf to get a bushel of it in barter. It sold in money for $40 a bushel. Moreover, Col. John Canon knew a good fat contract when he saw it and usually got it.

In 1781, as Hon. Blaine Ewing relates, Col. Canon secured the contract supplying the militia and rangers of Washington County with a pound of beef, three-fourths pound of pork and one gill of whiskey a day; and he did it and got his money. But Col. Canon always furnished good whiskey and full rations; he was not like the howling patriot during our Civil War, always crying "On to Richmond, bleed and die for your country, Soldiers," at the same time filling a contract for horses for the Government:—colored boy rode a prancing bay up to the purchasing officer, sold him, rode away, and in a half hour sold the same horse again to the same man.

Take him all in all, as Founder of our town; donor of the lot on which our first academy of classical learning was built (after Washington refused to give it; slow people up there!); take him as frontier defender; organizer of companies and battalions of scouts and rangers; as public officer, lawyer, judge, citizen, neighbor and man, Col. John Canon was a man, as Kipling would say, to gloat over; to hurrah for; to admire in life; to remember with pride and gratitude long after he was dead. They did well to name the town for him for he was a man set four square to all winds that blew, as a good Presbyterian ought to be:

he did his duty as he saw it: he feared God as he knew Him. He hated ignorance as the hideous mother of all superstition, witchcraft, lawlessness and violent excesses, and cheerfully gave of his money and property to provide education for the children of the rude pioneers among whom he lived.

We are debtors to Col. John Canon for more than the name of the town in which we were born, for he furnished McMillan the means to build the first stone academy precursor of Jefferson College. It was he who said, "Let there be light in this town set on a hill"; it was he who lighted the first torch of knowledge, west of the mountains and equipped the first preachers and school teachers for the making of the vast and mighty west. Let us—as the Puritans used to say in their solemn conclaves,—"Let us first of all praise famous men," and therefore, we, on our hundredth anniversary, praise Col. John Canon.

Now let us see who came here, whence they came, and what they found. Fellow natives born,—let us grant it nearly all our fathers worked in their shirt sleeves, or our grandfathers did, as Oliver Wendell Holmes says.

You see, emigration, as Emerson says, usually travels on its belly, nor on its conscience, not on principal, or indignation over rights withheld, or wrongs inflicted. Some Pilgrims and Puritans emigrated on their conscience, at least they said they did. I don't believe it altogether. The Pilgrims fancied themselves the only "truly pious" in England, and since they couldn't have their own way there, and wouldn't conform to State Church, they emigrated for liberty; for the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience; and lo, as soon as they got to Massachusetts they wouldn't permit anyone to live in their colony who didn't believe and worship as they did, and with glorious inconsistency began at once to pillory Quakers; whip Baptists; banish Episco-

palians,and burn witches, to the glory of God. Nice fine conscience those old fanatics had down on Cape Cod and Boston Bay! But let them live and let live their creed. I am glad I with my jovial soul, was born later in Western Pennsylvania; but let them sleep in peace. They were grand men in their stern ascetic way, and benefactors of all the country; exalting right manners, establishing colleges and schools, and standing wherever they went for loyalty to truth, and duty, integrity, honor and fear of God. But Emerson is right,—people usually emigrate on their belly, not on their conscience; they move away because they are hungry; they leave their home to get more to eat; to better their fortunes; to find cheap lands in Australia, South America, or in our own great west. Thus, the people who came to Western Pennsylvania between 1760 and the year 1800 were all poor. They crossed the mountains, endured every hardship, braved the treacherous Indian and faced the perils of wild beasts, because they were hungry and poor and wanted land to cultivate and forests to kill game in.

There were precious few rich heirlooms ever found in the cabins of our first settlers, no Chippendale sideboard, no Dutch tall clocks that crossed the seas and the mountains; no ancestral silver adorned the pioneer's table. Happy, indeed, the family that boasted pewter or iron spoons and forks. The hunting knife did service for the men, and china was scarcely known. Yes, the belly's want to get square-meals,—turned the stream of emigration to the head waters of the Ohio, during the last quarter of the 18th century.

The first pioneers and settlers came from Northern Maryland and Virginia; these people loved water, shore fronts, fishing, horse-racing, and always settled along the rivers at Brownsville, Pittsburg, Wellsburg and Wheeling.

The Scotch-Irish or Protestant Irish from Ulster came

next; we find them here in Washington County as early as 1765, fresh from Ireland and green as Erin's Isle. These Scotch-Irish loved the interior regions, the lands back from the rivers and greedily took them up far from the other settlers.

When the War of the Revolution was ended, hordes of emigrants poured into our country from the Cumberland Valley, and the German settlements of Eastern Pennsylvania. Discharged veterans came home from Yorktown, married wives, and leaving the old home in the valley, crossed the mountains with a few pack horses, and settling in the trackless forest, soon cleared a patch for cultivation and began "to turn the wilderness into a fruitful garden", as Dodridge says, from whom I shall quote my facts. Just as my companions in arms, after muster out usually married in our country the girl they left behind them, and off to Kansas or Nebraska, went hot foot, claiming the 160 acres of good land and established homes.

The toughest, thriftiest, frugalist people of the mixed multitude that settled our country, were the Protestant Irish Presbyterians. They loved the land and stuck to it; they squeezed out the less thrifty, pleasure-loving Marylanders and Virginians, and to-day we may truly say that the country is overwhelming Scotch-Irish; as Presbyterians we own it and dominate it.

And, by the way, we have supplied this country with more Presidents,—no arguing—more preachers, Judges, College Presidents, great merchants and manufacturers (to say nothing of fine farmers), than all the Yankees have, or cavaliers of the South,—at least I think we have.

For the Scotch-Irish will at any time mortgage his farm to send his son to college and buy his daughter a piano. He believes in churches, and built one every ten miles through the whole great Cumberland Valley. Not a bad sort, these Scotch-Irish; often narrow, close in

money matters, stubborn in opinion and awfully strict in religious observances, yet pure in life, honest in all affairs, lovers of truth, devotees of liberty, ardent patriots pouring out their blood in three wars for this country. George Washington said, "if all failed, he would hold the mountains with the Scotch-Irish."

I often fancy now how I would have loved life as a young pioneer in Washington County, in 1785. What a country it must have been to the eye, if one could only climb a tall tree on top of Sheep Hill and look up and down Chartiers Valley!—hardwood forests stretching from horizon to horizon, and their green tops soaring and waving adoration to heaven; not an open spot of ground away from the creek, and on its high banks where storms had leveled the trees, blackberries grew in the windfall! Surely it was glorious to fill the lungs with that unpolluted air,—to build a camp fire by the creek under a bluff,—to catch the gamy bass and perch,—cut a steak from the loins of a deer just shot,—mix corn-meal and water, and cover the cake in the wood ashes. What a meal after a day's march! Then the awful silence before the voices of the night began to be heard,—throw more logs on the fire,—spread those sycamore boughs thick against the bank,—unroll the blankets,—off with the moccasins,—stretch the tired feet towards the fire,—give me a coal for my pipe:—Now, listen! First the howl of a wolf, and then the growl of a bear, and heavens!—what's that? The cry of a panther and screech of a wild cat. Oh, it surely was jolly to be a first settler; and life was full of zest, because always full of peril. You know you must have risk and dangers to live at the highest point. In piping times of peace, plenty and safety, life loses all zest, becomes monotonous, stale, flat, unprofitable. We die of ennui. The nerves grow dull and scant of life. Oh, it takes a

battle charge, or a panther crouching for a leap on a tree over your head: it takes the consciousness that Indians are in the woods,—one after you,—to make life interesting.

There was a Frenchman who killed himself because of the monotony of life; there was nothing to do but eating, going to bed and getting up. He would have had variety enough had he been one of Col. Canon's rangers. For in those brave days of old they seldom took their clothes off and their only bath was out in the fresh cool air. But life was intensely interesting. Such supple muscles, such sharp eager eyes and keen ears; it was a hazard of fortune and of life every day.

The dogs were trained not to bark for fear of Indians. The fires were put out before twilight fell lest a scouting Indian see the smoke from a hill miles away, and his blood curdling yell be heard before morning at the cabin door.

Only in the winter time did the settlers dwell apart in their own cabins on their own lands. In summer they lived in forts. Early every morning, the men, say a score or more, would ride to Matthew White's farm; stack their rifles in the middle of the wheat field to be reaped; post sentinels with rifles outside the fence by the forest to watch for Indians and give alarm. So they lived,—their lives in their hands.

Every fall after the scattered families returned to their cabins, they found their hogs and sheep devoured by wolves or bears or panthers, and their corn eaten by squirrels. Every fall some one or more families would be massacred by Indians, their cabins burned and crops destroyed, and live stock carried off.

The nearest settlers would see the lurid smoke against the evening sky. The men would seize their rifles, the women snatch up their babies and flee to the woods to cower in trembling anxiety the long night through, stifling the babies' cry. So they lived,—panther in the woods, rat-

tlesnake and copperhead in every clearing and blackberry patch, and sculking Indian, with noiseless tread, stealing on the cabin or field to murder a man or woman. Jolly, wasn't it? No monotony; no loafing on store boxes swapping stories or talking stale politics in those days.

Once the wolves went mad; got hydrophobia and attacked everything in sight,—men, hogs, sheep, horses and cows. A mad wolf bit Captain Rankin of Raccoon Creek, and he died horribly, tied to his bed; so McCamant of Cross Creek died from a mad wolf's bite: but it rid the country of wolves. They bit one another in their dens and thousands died.

The worst terror of early settlers was bears. They were not afraid of men; they had never been hunted and cowed. You see they say that bears got their taste for white man's flesh from Braddock's defeat. Hundreds were left unburied on that fatal field. The bears ate 'em and liked white men so much that for years they kept this sweet taste in their mouth, and would pursue and attack every white man they saw. They were like the South Sea cannibals, after they roasted the first white Scotch missionary and ate him, they wouldn't eat common darkey men with any gusto any more. And when a big chief bagged a lot of fresh Scotch missionaries, it was indeed a royal compliment to be asked, "Come with me, the pot is on the fire, have some hot Scotch with me to-day." But it was an acquired taste with bears and they were glad to lose it before the white men's rifles.

The law was kind to our pioneer settlers. It gave every man who built a cabin and raised a crop in one field, 400 acres outright and a preemption right to 1000 acres more, secured by a warrant of the nearest land office.

The Marylanders and Virginians cared little for land. They thought it would bear only two or three crops and then he exhausted, as in Virginia it was exhausted by to-

AUNT MARGARET McCROBY

bacco. The shrewd Scotch-Irish knew better and got most of their holdings.

Well, can you imagine it? A whole country in which there wasn't a store, a shop or mill at first, a whole country with no money at all?

All the early settlers had to barter for salt, iron and powder, and lead was peltry and furs. Every year a caravan of young men would go to Baltimore; their pack horses loaded with furs to barter for salt, and as I have said every bushel of salt was worth a cow and calf.

How would you like it to eat Johnny cake all winter for breakfast, hog and hominy for dinner, and mush and milk for supper?

They wore linsey made of flax and wool; flax was the chain and wool the filling, whatever that was. Every cabin had a loom; every woman was a weaver; every family tanned its own leather, made its own shoes, all its own clothes and ground its own grain. They cut or burned a hole in a butt of a tree slanting towards the bottom and pounded their corn into meal.

When mills were built, towns grew up around them; a blacksmith with a forge, a harness maker, a variety store, a tavern, a doctor, then a preacher and civilization had dawned. At first there was no salt, no iron, no castings; there wasn't a hairpin in all the country, nor a buckle, nor corset, nor nail. Think of a woman without a hairpin or pin. How could she hold her multitudinous things together and on without them? Where would she be when her low-necked gowns said to her, my lady, one more effort and I shall be free; when you turn that corner and your partner swings you,—without that indispensable hairpin?

Their cabins;—we will go out and look at the original log college of McMillan's of blessed memory. There is another just like it over at Beach Nobs in which my

grandmother, daughter of Capt. Thomas Dill was born; a pious man; his coat of arms a broken reed bending over some smoking flax. Called himself Tommy Dill; the bruised reed, his humility and piety still descend to one, at least, of his posterity. Still you see, love never fails, whether we wear satin or linsey-woolsey; custom changes, fashion comes and goes but love abides.

So they went courting over those hills, and through the dense woods in spite of panther and Indian. They talked sweet nothings outside of cabins under the harvest moon, and then they married. Next, they selected a site, took up 400 acres and after the wedding festivities, which lasted at least three days, the neighbors gathered to build the newly married pair a cabin. It took just three days to raise a house, finish it, and on the fourth day the bridal pair moved in. They did it thus:—some men went to the woods and cut down trees of equal length and thickness; some with teams hauled logs to the site; others of experience notched the logs, called corner men; others put them together. While the cabin was rising, other men hewed out clapboards for roof, puncheons for floors; others were at work on the chimney, built outside of wood and lined inside with stone. The old men, meantime, whittled pegs to drive in the logs to hold breeches and petticoats, and a shelf for the gourd and pewter ware. Others made a table, a big puncheon board supported on four round legs; the boys drove chunks between logs and a rough mason mixed mortar and daubed it on the chunks; and so in three days it was built, door cut, floor leveled; and then came bride and groom, the house warming and Black Betty till all were glorious and happy.

By the way, there wasn't a bird, or rat, or bees or butterfly in all the wilderness, till the pioneers made clearings. Robins and song birds only crossed the mountains after settlers came. I quote from Dodridge. Crows and

blackbirds had no use for the country till man felled the trees, let in sunlight, and worms came to the surface,—corn was planted and bees hummed over flowers and clover.

The summers were cool for the trees shaded the land and kept it damp in August. The streams were low in summer, no grinding done after late in May. The winters were long; snow fell in November, three feet deep, and there "was nothing doing" except get wood, feed stock and go to mill.

You know this country west of rivers in 1775 all belonged to Virginia and was called Westmoreland County. Lord Dunmore made Col. John Canon a Justice of Peace in 1774 and held court in Pittsburg,—but at last Pennsylvania got us, and Washington County was cut off Westmoreland County, or otherwise my company might have fought with Old Virginia in Stonewall Jackson's Brigade. Think of it:—the width of a narrow river, or an imaginary line determined whether we died for the Confederacy or the Union. As it was, late in 1780, Gen. Neville came from Virginia with 300 slaves to settle on the Monongahela. He bought Neville Island. He bought much land in Ohio and took slaves there. These slaves scattered, Aunt M. McCroby, aged 113, remembers it well.

Now in conclusion, concerning the old town itself, these past 100 years, Dr. Riddle and others will tell of all its glory. "How far one little candle sent its beams", how the McMillins and Browns and Riddles of blessed and glorious memory made Jefferson College renowned to India's Coral Strand, etc.; how we educated martyrs for God, who died by violence in the Indian mutiny, holding out the lamps of life to its heathen people in Allahabad; how we provided beautiful wives for hundreds of ministers and Jefferson's Alumni. How we kept Pittsburg from degeneracy and decay and profligacy by supplying her with nearly all her Preachers, Judges, with all her famous

lawyers, and doctors, and her stores and factories. With truly pious Washington County youths to fill her U. P. Churches. Without Washington County and Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburg might have been as corrupt as Paris, as dead as Brownsville, as slow as Philadelphia.

"What makes you smell so sweet? asked a traveller of a piece of clay he picked up. "Oh, once a rose was planted in me," replied the clay.

Just so,—and what makes Pittsburg great, prosperous, powerful? Oh, Washington County is close by, invades it, distinguishes it,—is the rose making it smell sweet and blossom in perennial prosperity.

But the town and its people. Well, it is not so handsome as it once was, but there is more money in circulation. It used to be that a half dollar started going in the town, never got out of it; passed from one pocket to another till every man had had it, and it was worn smooth on its travels. For that half dollar had often been in the collection bag for foreign missions; it often treated girls to ice cream soda at John Brown's; it bought taffy from Dungy; it passed through Black and McDaniels or Ritchie's store a thousand times; it bought watermelon from Jimmy Horner; it bought medicines for the sick; it helped to dig graves and gardens; and paid Aunt Margaret for washing new born babies, lots of them, twelve children in every family.

But the town, well, if you want characters, idiosyncrasies fully developed,you must go to small towns to find these. In cities conventionality kills eccentricity. In big towns people all look alike, all dress alike,—as much as marbles in a bag or peas in a pod. The tailor makes us, fashion fits us to its procrustean bed. We hear the same story; take off our hats same way; say "thanks", "beg pardon", "yes indeed", "awfully", all in the same tone. But

small towns haven't enough dudes in clothes to make one ashamed or noticeable in last year's hat, or an old coat out of fashion. So, it is go as you please, and dress as you like, and grow your own native traits to their fullest development.

At least it used to be so in old Guntown, when Johnny Land tingled his triangle; when Barnum Weaver conducted an auction sale; when Squire Hornish used to sing so loud in the Methodist Church that he confused and threw out of tune the Presbyterian choir a half mile away.

It used to be so when Gen. ———— addressed the Divine Providence in prayer as "Oh, Thou Rambugnifying God" or when my splendid old dad in his shop in his shirt sleeves used to argue down the old seceders on close communion and infant damnation.

Yes, it used to be so that every man in town grew like a tree unpruned,—conventions never vexed our daddies; —everybody was himself, not an ape, imitating the great Matthew Brown or the aggressive, R. S. Breckenridge or the exquisite Dr. Alden. What could be droller, yea, finer, in its naked naturalness than the death-bed of that good woman of our town, who, when her pastor stood by her dying bed and asked her if he should commend her soul to God in prayer, smiled and said, "Dear Will, I heard your grandfather preach for twenty-five years. I have heard more sermons than there are leaves on a sugar maple, and long prayers enough to do for all eternity. So, Will, if it is just the same to you, I'll dispense with prayer and die while you whistle 'Listen to the Mocking Bird,'" and he omitted prayer and whistled the mocking bird to her great comfort.

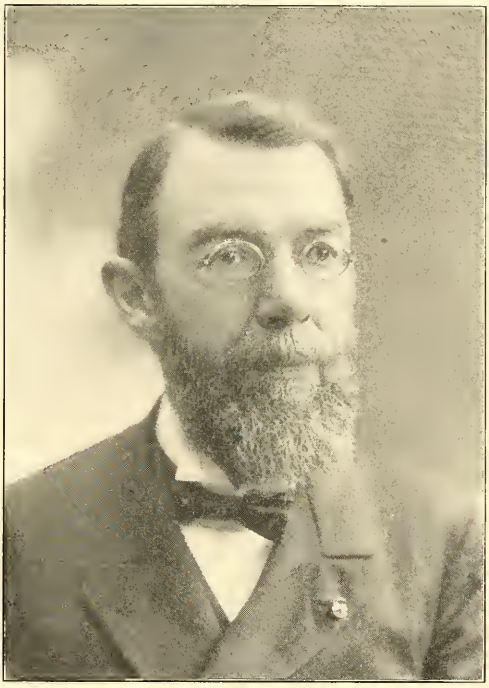
ADDRESS OF

MATTHEW BROWN RIDDLE, D. D.

Read at the

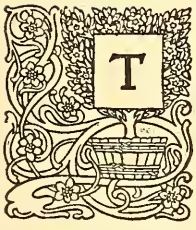
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF CANONSBURG, WASHINGTON CO., PA.

JUNE 26, 1902



MATTHEW BROWN RIDDLE, D. D.

Address of
Matthew Brown Riddle, D. D.



THIS borough was young when I first knew it; and I was so young that my chief delight in it was as the place where I could run barefoot. My recollection of it covers more than sixty years, and my relations to it make it a privilege for me to speak at this Centennial celebration.

Representing a family that has made no small contribution to the history of Canonsburg, I am also the sole survivor of the Faculty of Jefferson College, the institution which gave this Borough its unique position in Western Pennsylvania.

It is not my task to give a historical sketch; that falls to more competent hands. But in view of what I know of the story, it seems proper to urge upon those present the importance of preserving the memories of those earlier days. To live aright in the present, to face the future hopefully, it is necessary to cultivate a genuine historic spirit. By this is meant that attitude to the past which neither thoughtlessly ignores it, nor blindly adores it. We are the heirs of our ancestors, and we ought to cherish our heritage. But we are also the actors of our own time, and hence should use the past to shed the light of experience upon our own path of duty. Unfortunately, our American life has too little historic atmosphere. Our monuments of the past are all too rare. The busy rush of our life allows too little time for memory to garner

thought and feeling from the generations gone before. Such celebrations as this will help to supply the lack.

This region is especially barren of a literature that recalls in vital fashion, the days of our forefathers. History is, indeed, taught in mechanical methods; names and dates are memorized, only to be forgotten. But the life in Western Pennsylvania has scarcely been portrayed at all. New England has her story-tellers; so have other sections; the South, the West, the South-west, the Pacific Coast; even Canada has a more abundant folk-lore than Western Pennsylvania. Yet Western Pennsylvania was the centre of the world's history, in the middle of the eighteenth century, and in the events that made the nineteenth century so great no region played a more important part than this one; whether in church or in state, in education or in industry, in war or in peace. This Borough of Canonsburg, moreover, has been one of the finest examples of this peculiar and rich Western Pennsylvania life. What a field it offers to one who would put on record with literary skill the life to which I have referred! Nowhere can a more remarkable collection of peculiar "characters" be found. Yet the field is almost fallow ground. Dr. H. C. McCook has made one notable contribution, but that is all. Nor does his book touch upon the century we to-day commemorate. The Whiskey Insurrection antedated the formation of this borough, though I knew men here who saw the conflict at Col. Neville's house on Bower Hill. Morganza is near at hand but the rich resources of history pertaining to Col. Morgan and his family, full of romantic interest, are known to very few. Of course, the story of McMillan's log cabin, and of Jefferson College, has received attention and will receive yet more; but the life of the borough, made peculiar by the presence of the college, has not been portrayed. We know some names and dates, but nothing has been done to make us see the

real men and women, to understand their peculiarities, to share in their joys and sorrows, to sympathize with their hopes and struggles. These people deserve the attention of the literary artist. The conditions of their lives were peculiar; they belonged to a race with remarkably distinct characteristics, of speech, of thought, of religion, and of action. There was much to develop individuality also, so that there need be no lack of originality in the characters to be portrayed. The romantic element can readily be found. Family tradition has shown me that very clearly. When will the artist come to portray this life? Soon, I hope, for recent years have obliterated much that is distinctive; it will not be long before no one can recall the people of Canonsburg as they were in the earlier half of the nineteenth century.

No attempt can be made on this occasion to do justice to such a topic, but I may be permitted to suggest some of the salient features of that past life.

First and foremost, at least for many, stands the peculiar life produced by the presence of the college. The elements brought here by the institution affected the whole community. The college itself had its own distinctive characteristics. It was Jefferson College, and it put its own mark on its men. In the early days the students came from a wide region, and inter-communication had not yet destroyed their provincial peculiarities. The college life, the college politics, the rivalries of the two great literary societies, the pranks, the games, the slang,—all these were largely distinctive. The modern stories of college life do not portray Jefferson College as I knew it in the days when she sent out the men who have done her such honor, that she is not ashamed to challenge comparison with other and wealthier institutions.

In those days, the college was made by the teachers, not by the buildings, not by the endowments. Here is a

story to be told: that of the noble men who with salaries next to nothing, with appliances that a high school would despise to-day,—did yet educate, in the highest sense of the term, the young men who came to Canonsburg. If these teachers were poor, they spent of what they had to build up the college. These things, I know—these things I ought to say here to-day. The question of a teacher's influence depends on the size of his soul, not on the size of his brain; and the greatness of a college depends on the size and number of the souls in its Faculty, not upon the amount of its endowment or the numbers in its catalogue. Measured by this standard, Canonsburg was the seat of a "great" college. None of us now living knew President Mathew Brown in his prime; some of us knew him in the weakness of his old age when his eccentricities, rather than his excellence, impressed us, but the testimony of his pupils is unanimous as to his power. He gripped the souls of men with hooks of steel; he lifted them into a higher intellectual and moral atmosphere; he achieved spiritual triumphs over their wayward natures. Though I am his grandson and namesake, I speak without partiality when I say that there was not in his generation a greater teacher, in this wide sense, than Mathew Brown, of Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. More of you knew and loved his only son, also President of the College. Refined, sensitive, delicate, of exquisite taste, and remarkable eloquence, he seemed at first too gentle and lovable for the rough task of college administration. But how well he succeeded; how beloved he was; how scathing the rebukes that fell from his polished lips; how cheering the counsel he occasionally volunteered. These two, I single out, because to-day I am talking of those I knew well, giving reminiscences, not a history. Of the last President, my father, I cannot trust myself to speak. There were others whom I knew and loved. Longest in my memory, as he

MILLERS RUN CHURCH

From a photograph by B. E.

was longest in service,—dear old Dr. William Smith. So christian, so faithful, so lovable; for forty-four years he was in active service as Professor, for fifty years he preached at Miller's Run. That sentence sums up more of godly life and labor than can be credited to many. I met him during the Civil War and alluded to his sons in the Army; said he in reply: "If I had twenty boys, I would have them all go."

There was the acute Prof. Snyder whom I knew about as early as I recall any human being, and with whose history I have many peculiar ties; Prof. Samuel Williams and his brother Aaron, thorough teachers, both of them; genial and gentle Robert Patterson; witty and wise Samuel Jones; noble little John Fraser; and the last one to go Alonzo Linn. Each of these names represents a living man, each a study for a character sketch, and what is better each a power for blessing to others.

The father of the new President of Princeton University preached at the Hill Church, and was for a time Professor in the college. Along this line I cannot venture further.

Then the borough inhabitants. What marked characters most of them had! It would be possible for me to begin down at the mill and name a resident in each house up the street, out to Mr. McDaniel's and not one of these would be without some distinct peculiarity that deserved special notice. But I do not dare to make such a list. A literary genius, knowing them as I do, might by his art reproduce the life of Canonsburg from these characters; neither photographing nor caricaturing, he might yet show what kind of people dwelt here, how their Scotch-Irish type of character took on various shadings and made men of individuality, of patient labor, of prejudice indeed, but yet of purity and probity. Even the colored people had their own peculiar life. They were not like the South-

ern slaves, nor were they like the serving men in our Northern cities. Some of them had ties with the college families, and the college life affected more than a little. I dared not catalogue the white residents, but I will name Dan Arnott, Elias Praul, Tom Sluby, old Moses Brown, last and not least—Dungee, who sold taffy and other goodies to the students.

But the peculiar religious life of Canonsburg must not be passed over. The borough and adjacent region was overwhelmingly Presbyterian, as is well-known. But there were three distinct denominations: the Presbyterians, the Associate Presbyterians, usually called "Seceders" and the Associate Reformed Presbyterians, then called "Union": the second and third now forming the United Presbyterian Church. The original place of worship for the Presbyterians was at the Chartiers (or "Hill") church, Dr. McMillan's. Afterwards the church in Canonsburg used the chapel of the college, Providence Hall. The outward manifestation of this religious difference on Sunday morning (Sabbath they called it) was in two steady streams of worshippers passing through Canonsburg, in opposite directions. Old Dr. Ramsey on a venerable steed passed along this upper road out to the Seceder Church. Others came down the hill to the turn. They, rode, as a rule, a whole family on two horses—the numerous children equally divided. The other stream passed down to the bridge to the Union Church. Why they went different ways some could not tell; but they were none the less tenacious and zealous on that account. The "Sedecers" had a Theological seminary out the pike, Dr. Beveridge being principal professor. The most prominent layman among the Seceders was Mr. Daniel Huston, whose home was near the village that now bears his name.

To one unfamiliar with Scottish, or Pensylvania religious history, these denominations seem grotesque surviv-

als of past controversies, yet they represented a sturdy adherence to principle, an unflinching persistence in maintaining what was held to be right, and I am not disposed to criticize them. Here, in this rugged devotion to minute differences, is a fine field for the literary artist. Someone ought to depict for posterity the old-time Seceders,

But the most characteristic feature of religious life in probably the most distinctly Pennsylvanian produce in the Canonsburg was the college "revival". One of the earliest is identified by tradition, with Dr. Paxton's great-grandfather,one of the latest I witnessed, as well as several others. It is difficult to describe the "revivals". A great wave of religious feeling would sweep over this entire community, often beginning at a college prayer-meeting. Special services would be held, and sometimes for weeks the college chapel would be filled every evening. Some people doubt the genuineness of such movements, but I cannot do so. Statistics I will not give you, but a little story I can tell.

One Sunday evening in the Adirondacks a party of Presbyterian ministers was driving back from evening service. In the twilight they began to talk freely of their spiritual life. Five of them were, or had been, Professors of Theology, and it appeared that every one of these was awakened to religious life during a revival in Canonsburg. "By their fruits ye shall know them," and the fruits of these college revivals still abide in abundance. There is scarcely a land the world around, where there has not been, as missionary of the cross, some one who here consecrated himself to the services of Jesus Christ. This was the great recruiting station for soldiers of Jesus Christ. It is not for us to-day to forget this, still less to think lightly of it.

Citizens of Canonsburg and friends: Thus lightly I have sketched some traits of the past. This is your heritage—what will you do with it? Forget it or ignore it, or treasure it? Treasure it as a stimulus for the present and a guide for the future, in dependence on the God of our fathers.

CENTENNIAL ODE

BY

DAVID REED MILLER, D. D.

Read at the

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF CANONSBURG, WASHINGTON CO., PA.

JUNE 26, 1902

DAVID REED MILLER, D. D.

Centennial Ode

I.

With glad salutations we join in your cheer,
And greet you in this your centennial year.
A hundred to-day? Can it be, as I'm told,
Your jubilant town is a century old?
So joyous, exuberant, full of its fun—
There's something wrong somewhere—you're not twenty-one!
The blush on your cheek and the smile in your eye?
Some scapegrace has sprung an uproarious lie!
Believe not a word the traducer may say,
The census is false, you are sixteen to-day!

Your eye is not dim nor your vigor decayed;
You're blithe as a bride for her husband arrayed;
So jocund and smiling, so winsome and fair,
So roguish, coquettish and so debonair.
And if you're a hundred—I question the truth—
You've quaffed at the fount of perpetual youth!
And if some misguided old fellow should say,
In the midst of his gab: "You're a hundred to-day,"
Lead him out of the crowd, but take care where he's led:
The silly old skeesicks is out of his head.

'Tis true in the days that we call, Long ago,
Some brave pioneers made their way through the snow,
Through rain and through sleet, through the forests and streams,
And founded their homes in the land of their dreams.
They builded their cabins, their schools and their kirk,
And practiced the gospel of vigorous work.
They laid the foundations and taught us the way
And fashioned the glory we live in to-day.
Of course they died young, and their children, I'm told,
Grow fairer and stronger, but never grow old.

The red, spotted lilies grew rank in the vales,
The children reechoed the call of the quails.
The sounds of the axes and falling of trees
New noises conveyed to the resonant breeze.
The wild, antlered deer raised his head in surprise,
And gazed on the scene with his wondering eyes.
Sequestered and lonely the log cabin stood
Mid tree-tops and stumps in the edge of the wood.
And ever the beasts and the birds lingered near
To study the tricks of the lone pioneer.

When Freedom was bound and her manacled word
Appealed to the world for the right to be heard:
Your fathers came here in the strength of their prime
The heralds of truth in the vanguard of time.
Heroic, high-minded, God-fearing they came
To wrest from the forests a home and a name.
To-day what they toiled for ennobles your hills.
The crown of your progress their planning fulfills.
The hope that you cherish, the good that you share
Have sprung to their height from the pioneer's prayer.

And what are the blessings we share here to-day,
For which in their wisdom they blazed not the way?
Our schools and our courts, and our government, too—
'Twas out of their planting this excellence grew.
Our freedom of conscience, our rights before God.
Sprang into their bloom from the Puritan sod.
The right of petition, the right of redress,
The right of free speech and the right of free press—
By these we have slowly climbed into the light:
The stairs by our sires were laid down in the night.

II.

The current of the dateless years,
The thought that moves the hemispheres
Is guiltless of repression;
Is masterful progression.

Some Luther finds a Bible chained,
  And from its sacred pages
A blessing rises unrestrained,
  To glorify the ages.

Some Franklin flings his kite in air,
  And taps our God's resources;
And lo! our planet everywhere
  Pulsates with subtle forces.

Some pilgrim gains his Plymouth shoals
  Through tears and spoliation;
And from that rock immortal souls
  Proclaim their coronation!

Some Edison assaults the realm
  Of fiery disk and crescent;
When blazing gets our world o'erwhelm
  With blessings incandescent.

'Tis from the germ the cedar springs;
  The raindrop broods the ocean;
The nestling soars on solar wings
  And spurns a world's commotion.

The smaller to the larger grows,
  The higher truth revealing;
The bud is father to the rose,
  Its fuller life concealing.

The coral lays the mountain down;
  The sunbeam fills creation;
The helpless infant grasps the crown;
  A word o'erwhelms a nation.

The round earth rolls its upward way
  From primal night chaotic;
And awes its highest charm to-day
  To a divine Exotic.

The world has traced its royal creeds
On units and beginnings.
No arts sublime, no matchless deeds,
But have their plasmic innings.

'Tis nature's law where'er you turn,
The less involves the greater:
The flames that to the heavens burr
Have their volcanic crater.

From units units upward spring,
And ever multiplying;
With larger faith their tribute bring
The larger faith supplying.

So we to-day, of other days,
Are but an evolution;
Our starry flag with peaceful rays
Was born of revolution.

We've had our Gettysburg because
Our Bunker Hill preceded;
The good that comes from freedom's laws
Was by our sires conceded.

And if King George had ne'er been shorn
From Sandy Hook to Braddock's;
Ulysses Grant had never worn
The crown of Appomattox.

Had John Paul Jones not won the day,
Nor wrecked the king's flotilla,
Our flag had never graced the Bay
And Fortress of Manila.

If we are strong it is because
Our grandsires laid the courses
That form the bases of our laws
And national resources.

Their toil a richer harvest yields,
A larger wealth has granted;
We reap to-day the ripened fields
Because our sires have planted.

In church and state and busy mart,
They held the true ideal:
Their worship was a thing of heart,
Their trust divinely real.

Where would have been our faith so fair
In all this favored nation,
If Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, ne'er
Had sprung the Reformation?

Or what, perchance, had been our lot—
Angelic or satanic?—
If stormy seas had never brought
The pilgrims puritanic?

The wrongs of country oft they shared,
Nor sought her spoliation.
They knew the right, and knowing dared,
To seek her coronation.

When Freedom lay in shackles bound
They bended low to raise her;
And when she came a princess crowned,
They were the first to praise her;

They sought no shackles for their land,
And those they found were broken;
To valor true they gave a hand
When treason was outspoken.

They marched where'er the drum-beat gave
Its warlike invitation.
No alien banner long could wave
When they upheld the nation.

III.

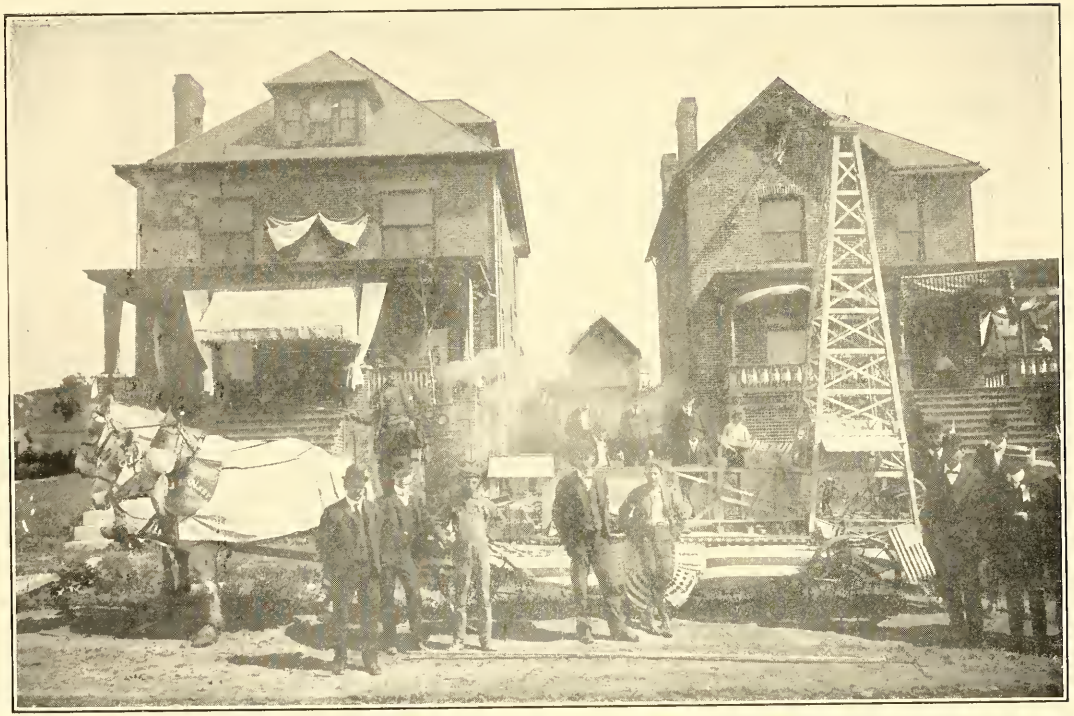
Now as these things you contemplate,
Tell me, what makes a nation great?
Is it some trick of sword or pen,
Some holocaust of slaughtered men?
The treasured ores of countless mines,
Or woodlands with their stately pines?
Or streams with packets crowded o'er?
Or mills that smoke from shore to shore?

Is it in fields of golden grain?
In commerce of the pathless main?
In iron rails with rushing wheels?
In furnace blasts or flying reels?
Is it in cities rich and great?
Or in the circumstance of state?
Is it in learning's rich domain?
In graneries that feed the brain?
Or is a nation's greatness blent
In some set form of government?

Ah, no! the glory of a state
Springs not from these, however great.
A nation is immortal when
It rests on brave, true-hearted men:
Men who retain the will of Him
Who dwells between the cherubim.

You may have mines and mills and marts;
You may have commerce schools and arts:
Your rivers and your seas may bear
Your splendid traffic everywhere;
The spirit of your mills may rise
To cloud the sapphire of your skies;
But if you fail in men—true men,
God help your hopeless country then!

Your commerce will in time decay;
Your pomp and pride will pass away.
No matter what you have or hold
Of broad domain or treasured gold;



THE EXHIBIT OF THE PHILADELPHIA CO. IN THE PARADE JUNE 26, 1902

PHOTOGRAPH BY THE WELLER STUDIO

No matter though you wildly cheer
The starry flag we all revere;
When virtue fades and men decay
The strongest state will pass away.

When zeal for righteousness has fled,
Half mast your flag; your hope is dead.
When honor bids farewell to men,
Woe to your chosen country then.
When men no longer seek the right,
Pull down the shades, fast comes the night.
When manhood and the Christlife die,
Then truth is bond-slave to a lie;
When love of equity has flown,
Ensceptred wrong usurps the throne;
Or when a free man's vital breath
Is some mad party shibboleth,
Then let the conscious state beware,
Then germs of death have entered there!

The weakest link will test the chain,
The strongest oft is strong in vain.
No matter what your triumphs be,
What victories your eyes may see;
What vast dominions you behold,
Or where your tides of wealth have rolled;
No land shall long her triumphs laud
That disregards the laws of God.

Go, trace the pathway of the sun
Where'er his fiery coursers run;
From noon to noon, from shore to shore,
Roam where you will the wide world o'er,
You'll find nowhere on earth a zone
That will approximate our own!

Go where all crystal rivers flow,
And on their tides thy courses row;
Ascend the mountains where they lie,
And view the lands from sky to sky;
Take if you will the morning breeze,
And on its wings explore the seas;

Become a comrade of the light
And sound the deeps of day and night:
Where'er you go; where'er you rest,
You'll find no land so truly blest,
As where Columbia proudly scars
The blue air with her stripes and stars.

But should you ask what makes us great,
Where rests the majesty of state?
My answer is, as yours must be,
In men, true men, in God set free!

IV.

In all this triumph of the years,
This building of the hemispheres;
Hadst thou no part, no hand to share
The wonders that were fashioned there?

Aye, from your classic halls have gone
The nation's truest brain and brawn;
In all the land, from east to west,
Through them thou hast thy country blest.

And far beyond the sounding seas
Have gone thy blessed ministries
Thy sons in alien lands have trod,
True heralds of the will of God.

Thy daughters to the lowly there
Have wrought the answer to thy pray'r.
Far o'er the earth thy stars have shone
And led the Christ-bought to the throne.

Thy soldier boys to battle went,
Their blood with brother's blood was blent,
And by their graves and manly scars
They gave us back the stripes and stars.

Your fathers with their voice and pen
Stood for the equal rights of men;
They showed the panting refugee
The North-star route to liberty.

Wherever human hands unbind
The shackles of the deathless mind;
Wherever man has led his friend
To some diviner, nobler end;

Where right is right and truth is true,
And men for men have dared to do;
Where faith is kinsman to the soul,
And love of God controls the whole;

There have thy silent forces wrought
The highest good that men have sought;
And all thy graces still shall run
Through ampler arcs till time is done.

FAMOUS AND FORGOTTEN BY-PATHS AND HIGHWAYS OF SOUTH-WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

BY

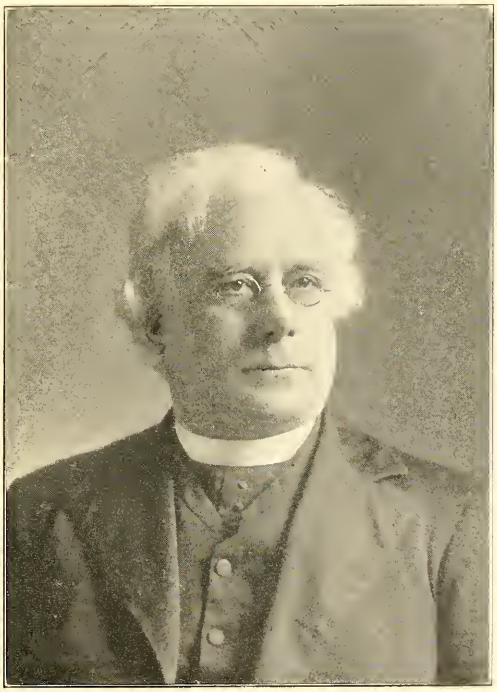
REV. A. A. LAMBING, LL. D.,

President of the Historical Society of
Western Pennsylvania

Read at the

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF
CANONSBURG, WASHINGTON
COUNTY, PENNA.

JUNE 26, 1902



REV. A. A. LAMBING, L.L. D.

Address of Rev. A. A. Lambing

I.

R. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—Old Father Time, notwithstanding his advanced age, is starting out at such a rapid pace in this new century that it becomes necessary for us to pause at intervals and cast a hasty glance at the past, lest it might be entirely forgotten. One of the most effectual and at the same time most pleasing ways of doing this is to celebrate the centennial of the various counties, cities, towns, churches and institutions of the section of country in which our lot chances to be cast. There the aged enjoy a season of pleasant reunion after perhaps years of separation where the reminiscences of days gone by are leisurely passed in review, old friendships are renewed; and the young are taught the wholesome lesson that it was in the courage, the daring, and the privations inseparable from pioneer life, that the tree of liberty, peace and prosperity was planted, under whose protecting shadow they are now permitted to enjoy a degree of prosperity and enlightenment the like of which the world has perhaps never before witnessed. But while we are permitted to profit by the blessings of the present and to feel sanguine of the future, let us beware of forgetting the past and the wholesome lessons that it teaches.

We of south-western Pennsylvania have a very fruitful field in which to study pioneer history. It would indeed be difficult to find in the vast area of our great nation a better field for historic investigation, or meet with more noble deeds of valor, suffering and privation for the development and building up of a new country than are pre-

sented in the early history of the territory around the head waters of the Ohio. But the treatment of these subjects does not fall to my lot on this occasion. I take it for granted that whatever relates to this thriving borough's early history in its several branches has been or will be treated of by speakers who are more familiar with its details than I can profess to be. And it is fitting that such matters should be dealt with by those who have been living actors and factors in what they discuss, or who have it fresh in all its vivid colors from those who immediately preceded them. I have thought it well to select a more general topic, which will not, I trust, be devoid of interest, and which is very intimately connected with the celebration in which I have the pleasure of taking part: "Famous and Forgotten By-Paths and Highways of South-Western Pennsylvania."

II.

It is needless to insist on the importance of means of communication for travel and traffic between places and peoples; they are essentially necessary, and even the rude sons of the forest could not dispense with them. They were found in every part of the country by the first pale-faced adventures, and nowhere perhaps, more plentifully than in South-Western Pennsylvania. By means of them the pioneer explorers were able to penetrate into every part of the country; by them the Indian trader could bring his trinkets and wares on pack horses to the most remote villages, and cheat the ignorant aborigenes to his heart's content; by them the land-grabbers could survey the forests, "locate" the most desirable tracts and lay their plans for taking possession of them. These paths or trails were

generally found to be the best routes for passing difficult hills and mountains, fording streams and reaching strategic points; and later, when the military roads were to be opened, wagon roads to be cut for the early settlers, and turnpikes built for the increasing traffic, they were seen to be especially valuable guides for the ax-men and surveyors. Fortunately for the early settlers the greater number of these led from the east to the west; though other important ones, crossing them from north to south, were not wanting. Notable among these Indian trails was the famous Kittanning path, which, starting from the east, crossed the Alleghenies at the picturesque Kittanning Point so well known and so much admired by passengers on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and extended to Kittanning, the best known Indian village west of the mountains. Next came the Frankstown road, which started from the town of the same name on the Juniata river a few miles below Hollidaysburg, crossed the mountains and continued its course to the forks of the Ohio. Its memory survives in Frankstown Avenue, Pittsburg. There were others of minor importance; but two, were of special interest in this connection, as being instrumental in promoting the exploration and settlement of this part of the State. The first of these was Nemacolin's path, of which Mr. Veech writes (Monongahela of Old, pp. 26, 27); "Nemacolin's path led from the mouth of Will's creek (Cumberland, Md.) to the forks of the Ohio (Pittsburg). It doubtless existed as a purely Indian trail before Nemacolin's time. For when the Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania traders on the Ohio began their operations perhaps as early as 1740, they procured Indians to show them the best and easiest route and this was the one they adopted. So says Washington. And when the Ohio Company was formed, in 1748 and preparing to go into the Ohio Indian trade on a large scale they procured Col.

Thomas Cresap of Old Town, Md., to engage some trusty Indians to mark and clear the pathway. For this purpose he engaged Nemacolin, a well known Delaware Indian, who resided at the mouth of Dunlap's creek, which, in early times was callel Nemocolin's creek. The commissioner and engineer, with the aid of other Indians, executed the work, in 1750, by blazing the trees, and cutting away and removing the bushes and fallen timber so as to make it a good pack-horse path. Washington says that the Ohio Company, in 1753, at a considerable expense, opened the road. "In 1754 the troops whom I had the honor to command, greatly repaired it, as far as Gist's plantation, and, in 1755, it was widened and completed by Gen. Braddock to within six miles of Fort Duquesne." This is a brief history of the celebrated Braddock's Road. Dunlap, an Indian trader, continued Nemacolin's path from the top of the ridge to the mouth of Dunlap's creek, immediately above the present Brownsville; and as Braddock succeeded in giving his name to Nemacolin's path, so Dunlap gave his to the creek, which had formerly borne the name of the same Indian. Few paths have contributed so much to the development of the western country as this. It became at an early day the route by which emigrants came to Pittsburg, and passed by means of the rivers to Kentucky and the Illinois country. Its importance in this particular can hardly be overestimated; but it does not enter into my present purpose to treat further of it. Suffice it to say that in the later part of 1759 Col. James Burd was sent out with two hundred men by Col. Bouquet who was in command of the royal troops at Carlisle to open and complete the road which had been made by Braddock from the top of the Chestnut ridge to the Monongahela river at near the mouth of Restone, that is to change it from a bridle path to a wagon road in order

to facilitate communication with Fort Pitt, or Pittsburg. (Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, vol. II. pp. 382,383.)

The second important Indian trail was that which led from the Monongahela at the mouth of Red Stone to the Ohio river at Wheeling. It passed through a place familiarly called Catfish's Camp, which occupied a spot on or near where Washington now stands. Catfish was a Chief, we are told,of the Kuskee Indians, was a friend of the white man,and was the owner of large tracts of land; but little further is known of him with certainty. The fact, however, that the national road later on followed the path more or less closely is sufficient to show that it was an important factor in the early settlement of this section of country. But being familiar to so many among you, I shall not pause to treat of it at any length.

The Indian trails not only showed the early explorers the best places for crossing hills, mountains and other difficult places, but having to take into account the fording of streams that might intercept their course, were of no little service also in showing the best places for crossing them. Long before the use of wagons in the conveying of passengers and merchandise to the frontier, and when pack-horses were still the ordinary means of transportation,it became necesary to call some kind of craft into requisition in crossing rivers when it might be impossible to wade them; and this led to the establishment of ferries at various points. Brief reference will be made to a few of these, which had more or less to do with the settlement and development of this section of country.

Treating of the brief period during which Virginia exercised jurisdiction over a section of the south-western part of our State, Mr. Alfred Creigh, writes, in his History of Washington County (p. 22): "The court licensed the following persons to establish ferries at different localities within the county of Youghiogheny, from 1775 to 1779.

Henry Heath, on his plantation on the Monongahela river. William Lynn,on the Monongahela river, from his house to the land of Francis Hall. Michael Cressay, at Redstone, old fort (Brownsville), to the land of Indian Peter. James Devore, from his house on the Monongahela river, to the mouth of Pigeon creek. To Samuel Sinclair, who lives in the forks of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny rivers, to have a ferry over each of the rivers. Jacob Bausman, across the Monongahela river, from his house to the town opposite (Fort Dunmore). Christopher Carpenter, across the Monongahela river, to the lands of Andrew Heath. The prices established by the court for ferriage were, four pence for any head of neat cattle, and the same for a foot person; two shillings and six pence for a man, and the same for a horse." I shall not delay to locate such of these ferries as are not clearly designated; suffice it to say that, they were all found between the present Pittsburg and Brownsville. A few of them will, however, be referred to more in detail.

I. The town of West Newton, on the Youghiogheny, was first known as Robbstown, and Robb's, or Simrall's ferry was established there sometime before the close of the eighteenth century, for the accommodation of such pioneers as crossed the mountains by the military roads of Braddock and Forbes, on their way to the West. It was by this ferry that the New England colony to the Muskingum crossed the Youghiogheny river under the leadership of Rufus Putnam, and founded the beautiful little city of Marietta, Ohio, April 7, 1788. And there can be little doubt that some of the early settlers of Washington county availed themselves of the same ferry. I shall not refer to any ferry at the forks of the Ohio, the site of Pittsburg; it could hardly have exercised any notable influence on the settlement of a section of country accessible by routes better known and more accessible.

2. Next, then, we have the ferry at the forks of the Yough, the site of the present McKeesport and it is deserving of a more extended notice, both on account of its importance in itself, and of the influence which it must have exercised in the settlment of at least the northern portion of Washington county. Like most river towns McKeesport boasted of a ferry at an early day in its history. Says the annalist of the place: "It is a well-established fact that David McKee the original owner of the land upon which the town was first built, appeared on the Monongahela before the cessation of hostilities between the French and the English, and that he was well received by Queen Aliquippa. He settled at the forks of the Yough by her permission, and in 1769, the colonial government confirmed to him the exclusive right of operating a ferry over the two rivers at their confluence."

3. It may strike some persons with surprise to be told that Elizabeth is the oldest town in Allegheny county. It was founded by Col. Stephen Bayard in 1787, and was named after his wife Elizabeth, who was a daughter of Col. Aeneas Mackay. The Pennsylvania Journal of January 13, 1788, enumerating the advantages of the town, in an advertisement for the sale of lots, says, among other things: "This town is situated on the east side of the Monongahela river, between Red Stone, Old Fort and Pittsburg, twenty miles above the latter by water and fifteen by land. The roads from the lower counties lead directly through it to Washington and Wheeling." And there was necessarily a ferry to carry the settlers across the river on their way to their new prospective homes.

4. Continuing up the river and coming more directly into comunication with Washington county, we reach Monongahela City and at the same time a very important ferry. That flourishing little city was first known in frontier history as Parkison's Ferry. John Parkison is

said to have secured a tract of seventy acres of land upon which a part of the city now stands, by a warrant issued August 27, 1769. It is sometimes spoken of as Southark, or Southwork. At the time, it is hardly necessary to say, both Pennsylvania and Virginia laid claim to the territory embraced in the south-western part of our State., The first court, held under Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, in 1775, authorized James Devore to keep a ferry "from his house on the Monongahela river to the mouth of Pigeon creek." On February 11, 1780, James Parkison secured a tract of three hundred eighteen acres more. The place was known among the early settlers as "The Mouth of Pigeon Creek", or, "Devore's Ferry." On April 13, 1782, an act was passed by which the ferry landing of Joseph Parkison and Jacobus Devore was established "thirty perches below the mouth of Pigeon creek." Parkison kept a store and carried on a small trade with the Indians as well as the whites; and in time he felt sufficiently encouraged with his success to lay out a town. This he did in 1792; and put the following advertisement in the Pittsburg Gazette in October of that year. "The subscriber has laid out a part of his farm on the Monongahela river in the county of Washington, State of Pennsylvania, at the mouth of Pigeon creek, opposite Devore's Ferry, into lots for a town, the sale of which will begin on the premises on the 15th of November next."

5. One would naturally expect that Old Redstone, or later, Brownsville, would be noted for its ferry; but scarcely any mention is made of one there in pioneer history. And, if we pause for a moment to reflect, this will not appear at all strange. Brownsville was not noted as a place for crossing the river, but as one of embarkation for Pittsburg or the western countries; and hence, while it had its ferry, and did a fair business with it in transporting the early settlers of this section of the State across the Mo-

nongahela, this was a matter of only secondary importance, and in consequence, claims little of the local annalist's attention. But let this suffice for ferries; turn we now to roads.

Coming to roads, however indifferent some of them may at first have been, we begin with Braddock's Road; which, though it did not penetrate into Washington county, was yet made use of by not a few of the early settlers. It was the first road for vehicles at least to the top of the Chestnut ridge; and it rendered the cutting of a road to the Monongahela far less difficult and expensive than it would otherwise have been. Forbes' Road, which led across the mountains from the east by way of Carlisle, Chambersburg, Bedford, Ligonier and Hannahstown to Pittsburg, opened the second thoroughfare to the waters leading south and west, and contributed at least to a limited extent to the settlement and development of the south-western portion of the State. But for the town and surrounding country, whose hundredth year we are now celebrating, Brownsville must be regarded as the principal distributing point. We have seen that Braddock's Road was continued from the top of the ridge to the Monongahela by Col. James Burd, in 1759. Thus the way was opened for the great artery of travel and traffic which was destined to diffuse the nation's blood, energy and wealth not only throughout this section, but also far across the waters of the Ohio. And, as a conclusion of my remarks, I shall turn my attention briefly to it. And what could be more worthy or more appropriate than the greatest national road of the United States! By way of contrast let me again refer to the bridle-path and mountain road that led across from Cumberland, threading their way through the forests, to the river. All merchandise was carried on pack-horses and contemporary accounts tell us that two men could manage ten or fifteen horses, each carrying

about two hundred pounds, by tying one to the other in single file; one of the men taking charge of the lead horse to pioneer and the other the hinder one to keep an eye on the proper adjustment of the loads, and stir up any that appeared to lag. Bells were indispensable accompaniments to the horses by which their position could be easily ascertained in the morning when hunting up, previous to a start. Some grass or leaves were inserted in the bell to prevent the clapper from acting during the travel of the day. Succeeding this primitive sort of road and transportation, was, as we have said, the indifferent wagon road. Speaking of it, Mr. Sherman Day, in his Historical Collections of Pennsylvania, says: "The first wagon load of merchandise that was over the mountains on the southern route, or that traversed by the National Road, was in 1789. They were for Jacob Bowman, who had settled at Brownsville as a merchant in 1787. The wagoner was John Hayden, who also resided in Fayette county. He drove four horses, and brought out about twenty hundred pounds, for which he received three dollars per hundred, and was nearly a month making the trip to and from Hagerstown, Maryland, a distance of about one hundred and forty miles." Mr. Thomas B. Searight's valuable work, "The Old Pike," shall be my authority for nearly all I shall have to say of this King of Roads and I shall not hesitate to quote verbatim from his learned pages. He says (p. 14.) "Tradition, cheerfully acquiesced in by popular thought, attributes to Henry Clay the conception of the National Road, but this seems to be an error. The Hon. Andrew Stewart, in a speech delivered in Congress January 27, 1826, asserted that Mr. Albert Gallatin was the very first man that even suggested the plan for making the "Cumberland Road," as the National Road was sometimes called. Whatever views and opinions may have been entertained regarding the project, it was not until 1806,

when Jefferson was president, that the proposition for a national road took practical shape. The first step was the appointment of commissioners to lay out the road, wih an appropriation of money to meet the consequent expenses. (p. 13.) I shall not delay to remark on the vicissitudes through which the project passed from its incipiency to it completion, and indeed through its entire existence. Being an undertaking of national importance, it naturally awakened national interest, and the expression of a nation's opinions and views, which can never be a unit. But, as Mr. Searight very truly says: "From the time it was thrown open to the public, in the year 1818, until the coming of railroads west of the Allegheny mountains, in 1852, the National Road was the great highway, over which passed the bulk of trade and travel, and the mails between the east and the west. Its numerous and stately stone bridges with handsomely turned arches, its iron mile posts, and its old iron gates, attest the skill of the workmen engaged in its construction, and to this day remain enduring monuments of its grandeur and solidity, all save the imposing iron gates, which have disappeared by process of conversions prompted by some utilitarian idea, savoring in no little measure of sacrilege. Many of the illustrious statesmen and heroes of the early period of our national existence passed over the National Road from their homes to the capital and back, at the opening and closing of the sessions of Congress. Jackson, Harrison, Clay, Sam Houston, Polk, Taylor, Crittenden, Shelby, Allen, Scott, Butler, the eccentric Davy Crockett, and many of their contemporaries in public service, were familiar figures in the eyes of the dwellers by the roadside. As many as twenty four-horse coaches have been counted in line at one time on the road, and large, broad-wheeled wagons, covered with white canvass stretched over bows, laden with merchandise and drawn by six Conestoga

horses, were visible all the day long at every point, and many times until late in the evening, besides innumerable caravans of horses, mules, cattle, hogs, and sheep. It looked more like the leading avenue of a great city than a road through rural ditricts.

"The road had its peculiar nomenclature, familiar to the tens of thousands who traveled over it in its palmy days. The names, for example, applied to peculiar localities on the line, are of striking import, and blend harmoniously with the unique history of the road. With the names omitted, the road would be robbed of much of what adds interest to its history. Among the best remembered of these are, The Shades of Death, The Narrows, Piney Grove, Big Crossing, Negro Mountain, Keyser's Ridge, Wodcock Hill, Chalk Hill, Big Savage, Little Savage, Snake Hill, Laurel Hill, The Turkey's Nest, Egg Nog Hill, Coon Island, and Wheeling Hill. Rich memories cluster around every one of these names, and the old wagoners and stage drivers delight to linger over the scenes they bring to mind." I shall not delay to recount any of the reminiscenses of taverns, wagon and stage drivers, the numerous adventures and hair-breadth escapes, as well as the accidents that marked the history of the road. Nor of the system by which the road was kept in repair, and the legislation that was found necessary to that end. Let me give only one example of a single trip on the road, where many others no less remarkable might be added. In 1838 Daniel Barcus engaged with John Hopkins, a merchant doing business at the foot of Light and Pratt streets, Baltimore, to haul a load of general merchandise, weighing 8,300 pounds, to Mt. Vernon, Ohio. He delivered the goods in good condition at the end of thirty days from the date of his departure from Baltimore. His route was over the National Road to Wheeling, thence to Zanesville and Jacktown, Ohio, thence, thirty-two miles, from the

latter place to the point of destination, the distance being 397 miles. He received $4.25 per hundred for hauling the goods. At Mt. Vernon he loaded back with Ohio tobacco, 7,200 pounds in hogshead, for which he received $2.75 per hundred. (Searight, p. 112.) The teamsters like all other persons engaged in the same occupation, formed a class by themselves with their friendships and enmities, their likes and dislikes, and one of the means by which they used to while away a part of their time on a road so familiar to them was by smoking; and, we are told, they used to buy very cheap cigars. To meet this demand a cigar manufacturer in Washington, Pa., whose name is lost to fame, concluded to turn a penny by making a cheap "roll-up" for them at four for a cent. They soon became very popular with the drivers, and were at first called Conestoga cigars; since, by usage, corrupted into "stogies" and "tobies". (Searight, p. 144.)

But the rapid transmission of the mails would naturally be a matter of the very first importance; and the more so as telegraph lines, and much more telephones, were, as yet, things of the future. The fame attained by the National Road in this particular is deserving of notice. And in this, as in every thing else, there were not wanting those who were ambitious of standing at, or least very near, the head of their profession. Among these, we are told by the historian of the Road, was Redding Bunting, who was probably more widely known and had more friends than any other old stage driver on the road. He was a great favorite of Mr. Stockton, the leading proprietor of the line. His commanding appearance is impressed upon the memories of all who knew him. He stood six feet six inches in his stockings, and straight as an arrow without any redundant flesh; and was endowed with a large fund of what was then, and is still very properly known as "horse sense". During the presidency of

Mr. Van Buren, it was deemed desirable by the authorities that one of his special messages should be speedily spread before the people. Accordingly arangements were made with the Stockton line, which had the contract for carrying the mails, to transmit the message of the President with all possible dispatch. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad at that time was not in operation west of Frederick City, Maryland. Mr. Bunting, as agent of the company, repaired to that point to receive the coming document and convey it to Wheeling. He sat by the side of the driver the entire distance from Frederick to Wheeling to superintend the matter and urge up the speed. The distance between the two points is 222 miles, and was covered in twenty-three hours and thirty minutes. Among the drivers between the relays was Homor Westover, who drove the coach from Uniontown to Brownsville, covering the twelve miles in the almost incredible space of forty-four minutes. In the year 1846, after the railroad was completed to Cumberland, he rivaled, if he did not surpass that remarkable feat of rapid transit, in driving the mail coach from Cumberland to Wheeling, which carried the messages of President Polk, officially proclaiming that war existed between the United States and Mexico. Leaving Cumberland at two o'clock in the morning, he reached Uniontown at eight o'clock of the same morning, breakfasted there with his passengers, at his own house, (for he was then proprietor of the National), and set out, reaching Washington at eleven o'clock, and Wheeling at two, covering a distance of 132 miles in twelve hours. (Searight, pp. 52, 53.)

While realizing the stubborn fact that, the world will move and the present will constantly retire into the past, we cannot cast a retrospective glance at the years gone by without a feeling of regret; nor can we blame men all of whose associations, memories and interests were associ-

ated with the National Road for looking with an unfriendly, almost a hostile eye, on the march of an irresistible progress which put an end to their calling. But those men and those means filled their place and filled it in a manner that can cause them little regret in laying down the burden of life or being cast aside; and while we profit by their manly deeds we should be careful not to permit memory to be lost in oblivion. It is sad, we repeat with Mr. Searight, to think that nearly all the old drivers, so full of life and hope and promise when pursuing their favorite calling on the nation's great highway, have answered the summons that awaits the whole human family; and of the vast multitude that witnessed and admired the dashing exploits of the old drivers, but few remain to relate the story. (Searight, p. 183.)

"THE CHARTEE OR SHURTEE SETTLEMENT"

THE PRECURSOR OF THE TOWN OF CANONSBURG

A brief account of its early settlers, whence they came, their political and religious affiliations and the part they played in the early history of South-Western Pennsylvania

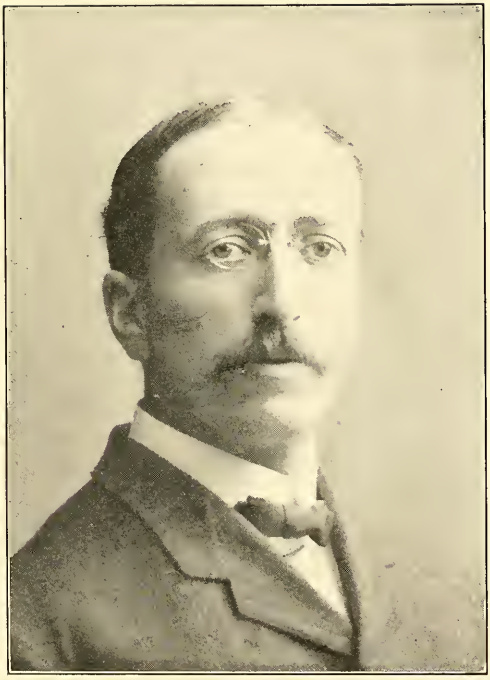
BY

BLAINE EWING, ESQ.

Read at the

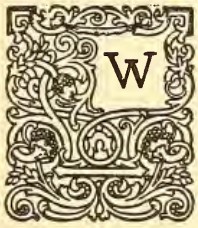
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF CANONSBURG, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNA.

JUNE 26, 1902



BLAINE EWING, ESQ.

Address of Blaine Ewing, Esq.



E celebrate, to-day, one hundred years of the incorporated history of the Borough of Canonsburg; and as we have to go back to its infancy, and hope to get some light on the reason of its existence, let us look at its family genealogy as a Borough.

If a child's training should begin one hundred years before it is born,—an axiom which recognizes the effect of heredity as well as training and environment,—it cannot be foreign to our subject, to antedate the incorporation of the Borough and look at the general character of the country round about, prior to that incident.

In these days much labor and time are spent in hunting up our family history in the effort to learn who we are, and whence we came; and while family pride may enter into the scheme, and inflate our ideas about our illustrious ancestry, it does little harm, if thereby, we collect and preserve the fast vanishing history of our early times.

The educational history of our town and vicinity has been well and frequently written, and the clergy, with that unconscious assumption of superior usefulness, so commonly seen, have carefully collected and amplified, not only the biography of the pioneer preachers, but every little incident of their lives. An instance of this mental attitude is shown in a phrase of Dr. McMillan's, characteristic of the whole literature, when in speaking of his students, he says, "Some of these became useful, and others eminent ministers of the Gospel."

Perhaps my taking the side of the merely useful common citizen, as against the eminent minister of the gospel, may be the survival of that spirit of combativeness, which has been so much commented on by our adversaries and distorted to our injury.

The attempt then to depict our history, is not merely a desire to magnify the past, or bask in the reflected glory of the early pioneers, but such occasions as this are defensible on the broader ground, that they furnish the color and detail that give local history its chief charm. "The early years of the time we celebrate are clustered all over with events which are not merely of curious interest, but of transcendent importance". "In them and their connecting antecedents we must seek the foundations and builders of our social fabric." Judge Veech. Secular History.

In these latter days, the days of everything big, of world wide commerce and big combines; the days of the huge aggregate, instead of the individual and his accomplishments, these recitals may seem pitifully small and unimportant, but like Paul to Titus we can say "Let no man despise thee" for in no section of the United States, New England not excepted, has there been more efficacious work done for humanity, than right here in Washington County, as originally formed, and in no part of the County, more than about the settlements adjacent to the congregations of Dr. John McMillan and Dr. Mathew Henderson.

In Washington County as then formed, was founded that second nursery of Scotch Irish Presbyterianism, (in imitation of that in the Cumberland Valley,) the source from whence they came originally; though maybe by a circuitous route.

Of them Theodore Roosevelt in his "Winning of the West", says "The back woodsmen of Pennsylvania had little in common with the peaceful population of the Quakers

and Germans, who lived between the Delaware and Susquehanna; and their near kinsmen of the Blue Ridge and the Great Smoky Mountains were separated by an equally wide gulf, from the aristocratic planter communities that flourished in the tide water regions of Virginia and the Carolinas. Near the coast the lines of division between the colonies correspond fairly well with the differences between the population; but after striking the foot-hills, though the political boundaries continued to run east and west, those both of ethnic and physical significance began to run north and south.

The backwoodsmen were Americans by birth and parentage, and of a mixed race; but the dominant strain in their blood was that of the Presbyterian Irish, the Scotch Irish as they were often called. Full credit has been awarded the Roundhead and the Cavalier for their leadership in history; nor have we been altogether blind to the deeds of the Hollander and the Hugenot, but it is doubtful if we have wholly realized the importance of the part played by that stern and virile people, the Irish, whose preachers taught the creed of Knox and Calvin. These Irish representatives of the Covenanters were in the West, almost what the Puritans were in the North-east, and more than the Cavaliers were in the South. Mingled with the descendents of many other places they nevertheless formed the distinctively and intensely American stock, who were the pioneers of our people in their march westward, and the vanguard of the army of fighting settlers, who, with the axe and rifle, won their way from the Alleghenies to the Rio Grande and the Pacific.

The two facts of most importance to remember in dealing with our pioneer history are, First,—that the western portion of Virginia and the Carolinas were peopled by an entirely different stock, from that which had long existed in the tide water region of these colonies; and secondly,

that except for those in the Carolinas who came from Charleston, the immigrants of this stock were mostly from the north, from their great breeding ground and nursery in Western Pennsylvania."

Who then are the people, the Scotch Irish, and whence did they come? If they have played so great a part in history, have been able to maintain themselves distinct so long, and impress their more vigorous personnel on the people west of the Alleghenies; to embrace and assimilate so many diverse elements, yet still, to retain in large measures, their own characteristics, and in a word to dominate the section where they settled,—they must be worthy of some study.

The Scotch-Irish Migration

It is not my province to go back to the beginning of things, yet I cannot forbear a slight reference to the successive steps by which our ancestry was prepared for their country. "The first successful efforts to plant English Colonies in North America were within twenty-five years after 1600. These were in the North and South leaving the temperate latitude for further occupancy. Cotemporaneous with these efforts was another scheme of colonization, conducted under the auspices of the same king, which has had a more salutary and enduring influence upon American character than any other,—the colonization of the Scotch in the North of Ireland. For us, at least, no two classes of widely separated events could have been better timed. The colonists in Ulster and their descendents, were for about a century, trained in religious faith and physical endurance, before their country became ready for their reception; so that when they did come they were enabled to settle in controlling numbers, just where they would best develop their character and growth, and from which they could diffuse themselves into other localities of strategic importance." Judge Veech's Secular History p. 289.

"The first migration from Ulster to Pennsylvania—and it was to Pennsylvania that nearly all the immigrants came prior to the Revolution—was from 1717-1750," (ib. p. 294.) Though religious persecution had been much mitigated in England, yet landlords in Ulster, taking advantage of the prosperity that had attended the labors of the Scotch, upon the expiration of the leases, raised the rents to such a figure that it was ruinous to many, and burdensome on all. To an American, this may seem strange, but even to-day the land is held by but a few. "The north of Ireland is divided into the counties of Antrim, Down, Armagh, Londonderry (formerly Coleraine), Tyrone, Monaghan, Donegal, Fremanagh and Cavan. These nine counties comprise the ancient province of Ulster, which includes a fourth part of the island, or 8567 square miles of territory." At the census of 1881, one-third of Ulster was under cultivation, more than one-third in pasturage, and a little less than one-fourth classed as waste land, mountains and bogs, in all 5,321,580 acres. Of this area there were 22,000 owners, but of the whole area, 72% belonged to 477 people, and 40% of it or 2,088,170 acres was owned by only 95 persons. Hanna, The Scotch Irish p. 159.

With such a proportion of the land in the hands of so few, even to-day, the renter can either pay what is demanded or starve, if he be unable to do as our ancestors did, leave for a more favored clime. They had heard of the lands across the sea where toleration was greater, taxes light, and tithes unknown, and here they decided to emigrate and found a "Church without a Bishop and a Commonwealth without a King."

"James Logan, the secretary and chief counsellor of the proprietary government, an Irish Quaker, wrote in 1729, "It looks as if Ireland is to send all her inhabitants hither, for last week not less than six ships arrived, and every day two or three arrive also. The common fear is

if they continue to come they will make themselves proprietors of the province," and another writer says that for several years prior to 1750, about 12,000 arrived annually. In September, 1736, one thousand families sailed for the Delaware from Belfast alone." Judge Veech, Secular History p. 295. They landed at Philadelphia and Wilmington; the latter place, the center of a circle that forms a part of the Southern boundary of Pennsylvania, the history of which together with the line westward, is unique in the annals of state boundaries;—and settled in a region bounded on the north by the towns of York, Columbia and Lancaster, and included within the peninsula formed by the Brandywine, Delaware and Susquehanna. Within this area, not greater than the Counties of Washington and Allegheny, you will find the original nursery of the Scotch-Irish; not the only one, but *the* center from which the people came to this county of ours, which in turn became a second nursery of the allied faiths of Presbyterianism. It held within its grasp the contiguous corners of three colonies, and there protected in a peculiar way, with great advantage for access and increase, as well as avenues of diffusion and egress, in all directions north, west and south, lived our ancestors of Chester, Lancaster and York Counties, Pennsylvania., New Castle County, Delaware, and Cecil County, Maryland. Judge Veech's Secular History p. 289-293.

In this section, as soon as settled, they not only built churches, but founded grammar schools, academies and schools of Divinity. There were not less than four notable schools in this region, from which the academies and log colleges of our county drew both their teachers and their inspiration.

From Faggs-Manor, the school of Rev. John Blair, (in what is now Londenderry Township, Chester County), and the Academy at Pequea (situate in Salisbury Township,

Lancaster County), came Dr. John McMillan and Rev. James Power, two of our pioneer preachers, and Rev. James Waddel, the blind preacher, immortalized in Wirt's "British Spy."

West Nottingham in Cecil County, Maryland, near the Pennsylvania line, taught by Rev. Samuel Finley, was one of the most celebrated schools in the middle colonies. From it came such men as Dr. Benjamin Rush and his brother, Judge Jacob Rush of Philadelphia, Col. John Bayard, and Gov. Henry of Maryland, Rev. Dr. John Ewing, the first Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and one of the Engineers to run Mason & Dixon line, and Rev. Joseph Smith, one of the pioneer preachers of our section as well as many others of note. (Futhey MMS.)

State Ridge and Chanceford congregations in the southern part of York County, contributed some eminent men to our section. The Hon. Hugh Henry Brackenridge, then a small child direct from Scotland, received here his primary education, later graduated at Princeton; studied theology and moved to Western Pennsylvania about 1781. He afterwards studied law, and rose in his profession to eminence, becoming a judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He is remembered best perhaps as the historian of the Whiskey Insurrection.

James Ross is descended from settlers in this congregation; he became eminent for his talents and learning, and distinguished as an advocate and statesman. He was a member of the Pennsylvania State Convention to form a Constitution in 1790. Yet in a peculiar sense he belongs to Canonsburg, for he was the first teacher in McMillan's log college. Whether he was a fine Latin scholar or not, as asserted on one side and as vigorously denied on the other, I cannot say, but you can read up the voluminous evidence in the History of Jefferson College and decide for yourself.

James Edgar of Cross Creek was another of the pioneers from the congregation of State Ridge. He was Associate Judge of Washington County in 1791; one of the original trustees of Jefferson College, and he and John Canon were the first representatives to the Supreme Executive Council from the new County of Washington.

In order to show the environment and previous training of our ancestors, I have thus briefly set out their different migrations; first, from Scotland to Ireland, then after about a century to their nursery between the Delaware and Susquehanna.

Among the churches just mentioned, Dr. McMillan preached in the beginning of his missionary journey in 1775, which culminated as far as we are concerned in the services held the "4th S. of August at John McDowell's on Shirtee." (Diary of Dr. McMillan.)

The settlement of "Shurtee" or "Chartee" (as it was spelled phonetically in whatever way the writer chose) will be noticed as early as 1774. How many families it then contained, it is not in my power to say, but it is probable that Canon had already located his claim, and it is certain the middle and east prong of Chartiers contained a goodly number of scattered settlers.

This is affirmed by the appointment of Canon to view a road from Gists in Fayette County (Mt. Braddock) to Paul Froman's on the East Fork of Chartiers, as mentioned in the Records of Westmorland County in January, 1774. Only a short time prior to this date, four years at most, a few scattered patches of corn, well trodden down by the buffalo and ravaged by the armies of squirrels and raccoons, foreshadowed the coming of the sturdy pioneer; or the deadened trees beside a spring, proclaimed that the tomahawk claimant had pre-empted the soil.

But the settlements were not such as would be so called in this day. Up to the very door of the cabin stretched the

CHARTIERS PRESBYTERIAN (HILL) CHURCH

The site of Dr. McMillan's church. Photo by B. E.

forest still and silent. In it, stealthily crept the dreaded Indian, whose coming no one could foreshadow, before he fell upon the homestead of the pioneer, who had invaded his domain, and in which forest when he had once vanished from view, no posse dare follow. How far it extended no man could tell. All they knew was that their most daring hunters and adventures had found no end, but impenetrable and silent, it stretched away over hills and mountains in endless undulation, its shade so deep that the light of day scarce penetrated its southern slopes, until the leaves had fallen.

Dr. Doddridge tells us that in his life time he had noticed marked changes in climate. When he first ventured into this section the snows lay long and deep amid the unbroken forests, and the summers were short and hot. With the first breath of spring, the season that brings such joy to the hearts of all in this day, the fathers and mothers of that day looked with a kind of terror on the trees as they clothed themselves in verdure, and deepened the gathering shadows of pathless woods. Then it was that the Indian chose his season of warfare and rapine. Then was the season of their scanty harvests, planted in fear, and worked in parties large enough to afford a respectable fighting force, while the families huddled together in the stockades and forts, watched and waited for the return of the men. Not a single time did they open the gates of their forts in the morning without the fear that the savages were lying in ambush. Then the adventuresome pioneer who refused to listen to warnings, boasted that his crop of corn was better worked than that of his more circumspect neighbor, who retired within the fort at the first call of spring. If the savages had been seen in the neighborhood, runners were sent out in all directions. At night he came stealthily to the window or door, and gently rapped to awaken the sleepers. Constant fear taught our fore-

fathers to sleep lightly. A few whispered words exchanged, and he disappeared in the forest to warn the next cabin. All was then quick and silent preparation. No light dare be struck, not even to stir the fire, but dressing the children as quickly as possible, and praying that the baby would continue to sleep,—for his cry might mean destruction,—they caught up a few articles in the dark and taking the rifle from the peg, feared every shadow, while they stole off to the fort. The older children were so imbued with fear, that the mere name "Indian" whispered in their ears, made them mute.

Thus does Dr. Doddridge, the best historian of his time, describe the early settlers. That he writes the truth, he challenges his contemporaries to deny, in whose recollection the scenes were still fresh; and while he is quoted by all historians of the times we celebrate, it is peculiarly true of our neighborhood here for he was one of the first pioneers of Washington County.

I have heard similar scenes described and thought them imported into our history, and, by similarity of situation and coincidence in time, attributed to our situation here; but find that the converse is the truth, as he is the source from which most of the historians of early times draw their pictures, and paint their manners and customs. He is almost "to the manner born," coming here as a little child and educated in the old stone Academy which Canon and McMillan and Henderson founded. It is a relief to find that he was not a Presbyterian.

The First Settlement

When the first settlement was made in Washington County, is too difficult a question to settle here, even if it were possible. As, however, it was the policy of both the Pennsylvania and Virginia colonies to prohibit settlements on the Indian lands before the title was purchased from them, there could have been no legal settlement here prior to the treaty of Fort Stanwix on November 5th, 1768.

That picturesque little army of scientists, axmen, and laborers, with their fourteen Indian warriors as guides, engaged in running Mason & Dixon's line, reached the Monongahela River on the 27th of September, 1767. When they had crossed it, and pressed through the wilderness as far as the second crossing of Dunkard's Creek, where the Old Catawba war path crosses, the Indians halted there, and announced that they were instructed by their chiefs, not to allow the line to cross that path; and there it rested for about fifteen years. Taking that as a basis, and following the meanders of the Delaware as our western boundary (and it appears that Penn never thought of a straight one), most of Washington County would be thrown into Virginia.

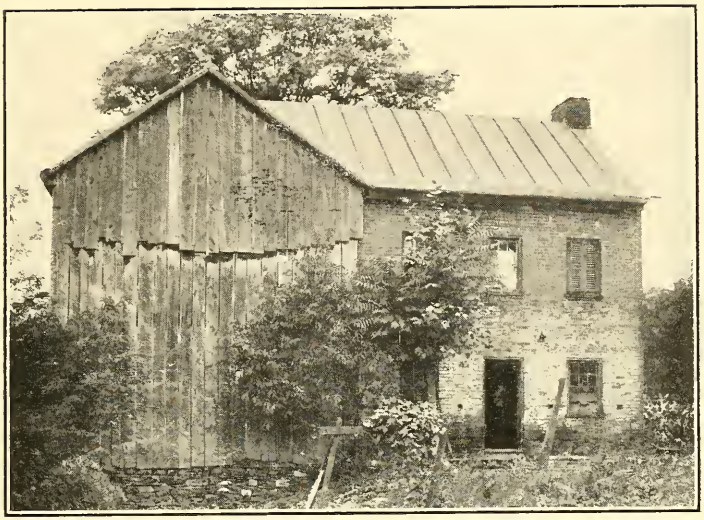
At this time, Fayette County had a considerable number of settlers. Penn issued a proclamation and had the Assembly pass a law on February 3rd, 1768, inflicting death without "Benefit of Clergy" on those disorderly settlers who had settled on the Indian lands prior to their purchase, or who refused to move when warned away, or returned after such warning. While this fulmination terrified the inhabitants of "Old Fiat" for awhile, the alarm soon subsided, when a delegation of Indians from the Mingo settlement, hearing that commissioners had come to warn away the settlers, heard all they had to say and then told the white man to "stay till the treaty". Though the Six Nations continued to complain of the intrusion of the white man on their hunting grounds, yet when George Croghan, had assembled his council at Pittsburg, in April of the same year, and as a result, the commissioners asked for representative Indians to accompany them among the settlers and warn them off, they flatly refused, Guyasutha very justly suggesting, that Penn would soon buy the land from the Six Nations (as he did at the treaty of Fort Stanwix), and that they did not want to alienate the settlers.

The report of the commissioners on their return was more a complaint against the Indians for interfering than against the white settlers for intruding on the land.

Governor Penn seems to have been fully convinced of the imminence of the danger, and perhaps there was dangr, yet it arose from the haughty efforts of the Six Nations to control their conquered allies, the Mingos, Delawares and Shawnees; who having traded with the settlers and sold their peltry to them, did not want to be disturbed even by "their grandfather" the Six Nations, as they called them, in their picturesque language of their speeches.

In a country far removed from the source of power, such a piece of travesty, could not but weaken the fast vanishing regard of the settlers for the Pennsylvania Proprietory Government. And when to this was added the troubles of Indian incursions, and the vexations of Virginia and Pennsylvania jurisdictions; to the former of which Penn offered no resistance, and to the latter confined his actions to written protests; the people naturally chose the government that had manifested some efficiency in protecting them.

On April 3rd, 1769, Penn opened his land office for the patenting of lands in the new purchase. On the first day there were taken out 3,200 applications, a portion of which, undoubtedly were for land west of the Monongahela. On that day warrants were issued to William Preston, Robert Harrison, Paul Fooks and David Evans, for land which comprised the Morganza Tract, purchased by Col. George Morgan prior to 1796. Cumrine, History of Washington County p. 145. If not the first application for land under either jurisdiction, it is the first of which I have any knowledge in Washington County, though it may not have been permanently settled till a considerably later period than others on Chartiers. While some of these applications were by speculators, many of them were doubtless by



TWO VIEWS OF THE HOUSE OF COL. GEORGE MORGAN AT MORGANZA
VISITED BY AARON BURR IN 1806

settlers, and if we had access to the Virginia Land office files, I have no doubt, many others, even in the vicinity of Canonsburg, could be enumerated.

The antipathy between the Scotch Irish and Quakers may be further accounted for, by their aggressive likes and dislikes. For the Quakers, the Scotch Irish had an intense contempt. "The fundamental principle of the Quakers religion was what they called the universal light, or the inward light. It was a feeling, they said, given to every man, born into the world, and was sufficient to guide him to all religious truth, and save his soul." It was not identical with conscience, but given to enlighten it; and to bring this inward light to perfection, all strife, worldly ambition, exciting sports, discussion of politics, and pursuit of war should be avoided, and the soul cultivated by stillness, and quiet reflection on God, till it brought itself into His likeness. They were also adherents of the doctrine of perfectionism, rejected all sacrament, and believed in present day revelations, of equal authority with the old. Fisher, Making of Pennsylvania, 43.

When you contrast with this, the original sin and total depravity Presbyterian, educated to political discussion, religious controversy and war; quick to revenge an insult and fight for his rights; despising the Quaker for his solicitude for the Indian on the one hand, and on the other his total failure to protect the white man (who had to fight for his existence with the actual savage, in all the unmentionable cruelty of Indian forays, and who held no picturesque illusions in regard to him, engendered by a safe distance with mountain ranges intervening), when, I say, you consider the fundamental differences of thought, religion and conduct, it is little wonder that there was small foundation for mutual respect.

The Scotch Irish were blind to any good in the Quakers except their religious toleration, which they thought

arose from their policy of non-resistence; and the Quaker, when forced to enter into the active administration of affairs, contrary to the strict tenets of his religion, if he did not admire his pugnacious backwoods subject, was at least willing to concede his value when a fight was on hand; and of these they had a superabundance. All these many causes, combined to convince the inhabitants of this section, that they were under the jurisdiction of Virginia.

Westmoreland County was established on February 26th, 1773, and, that which afterwards became Washington County, was divided into two townships, Pitts and Springhill. Pitt being the most northerly and including all north of a line run westwardly from the present site of Brownsville to the western boundary of the Province; thus including most of Washington as now formed, all of Allegheny, and part of Beaver.

In Mr. Cumrine's History is found one of the first petitions for roads in this section, October Sessions, 1773. "Upon Petition of Divers Inhabitants of the Township of Pitt in the County of Westmoreland, humbly showeth; that whereas your petitioners together with a number of other inhabitants of the Township aforesaid, labor under great difficulties and disadvantages for want of a public road, leading from the south-west side of the Monongahela river, opposite the Town of Pittsburgh, by Dr. Edward Hand's land on Chartiers, to the settlements on said creek, supposed to be at or near the western boundary of the Province of Pennsylvania, etc. . ." These settlements were doubtless the Chartiers settlements referred to previously and to be mentioned hereafter. If Pennsylvania's most western county had no more definite idea of its extent than this, we can easily see that the inhabitants in general must have been at sea completely. It being therefore a matter of doubt where Pennsylvania ended and Virginia began, the settlers here having no love for

the government of Pennsylvania, and the prices of land being much higher here than in the neighboring Colony of Virginia, seem to have chosen the latter in pretty large numbers.

Penn's line (run in 1767, to a point on Duncard Creek in what is now Greene County), showed that if the meanders of the Delaware river were followed on the west, that the line would fall only about six miles west of Pittsburgh. But when the Earl of Dunmore began to covet the allegiance of the settlers about the head waters of the Ohio, he repudiated even the accuracy of these measurements, and sent his emissary, Dr. Connolly, to Pittsburgh, of which he took possession in January of 1774. Then began a veritable reign of terror caused by the white man, in the contending jurisdictions of the two colonies. Then followed arrests and counter arrests, violence and militia musters, threats and protests. When the loyal adherents of the Pennsylvania jurisdiction, appealed to their officers for protection, Connolly arrested, not only the complainant, but the officer also; and sometimes in addition to threats and abuses, pulled down a few houses around the ears of the inhabitants, as a mark of tender regard and solicitude for his subjects. He headed a band of retainers against Hannastown; liberated the prisoners there, and in the pleasant little speeches made on that occasion, one Vance, told the Sheriff of Westmoreland County that he would be arrested, "and that he had positive orders if any person tried to arrest them under Pennsylvania warrants, to shoot them, and he would do it." 4th American Archives, Page 1272.

A letter written by Joseph Spear, February 23, 1774, a trader at Pittsburgh, informed St. Clair, that the Virginians had held several musters up the Monongahela lately, "One at Redstone Old Fort, and one yesterday at Paul Froman's, on the other side of the Monongahela" on the East Branch of the Chartiers Creek, and one at Pente-

cost's own house. In consequence of which Pentecost warned Mr. Swearingen not to serve any longer as a Pennsylvania Magistrate, at his peril.

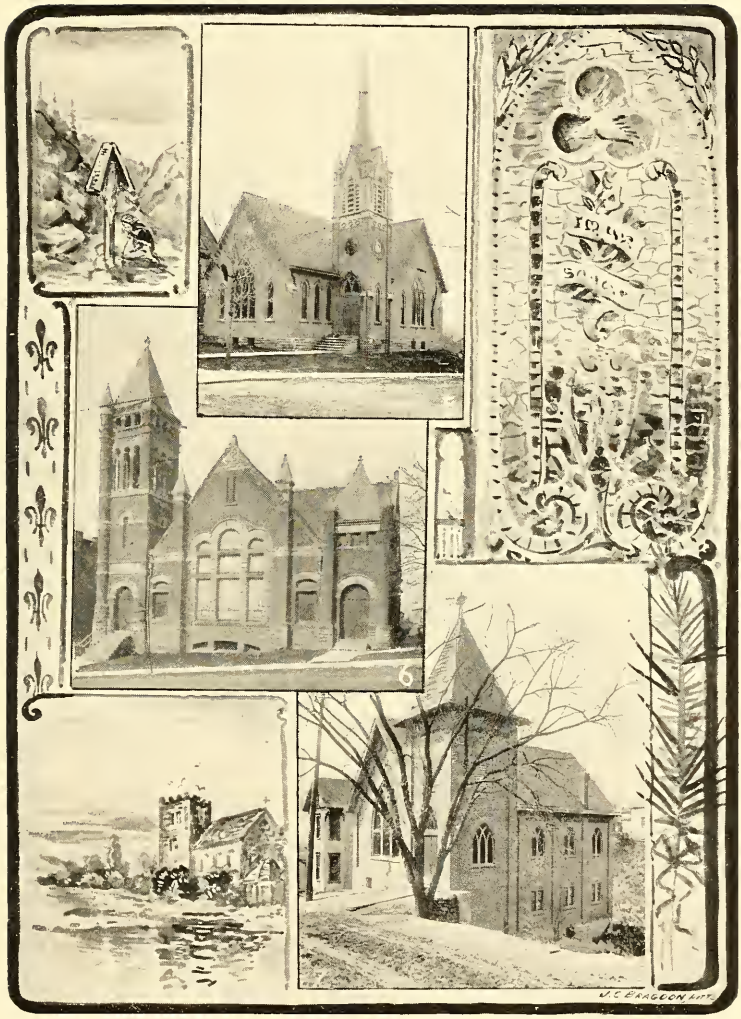
On March 30th, 1774, a party from "Chartee Settlement" joined the Doctor at Pittsburgh, and in aid of his designs, lent him countenance, while he informed the Pennsylvania magistrates that he had the full support of Dunmore, who applauded him for his firmness in resistance of the Pennsylvania government, particularly his refusal to give bail when arrested. American Archives, 4 Ser. Vol. 1, p. 269.

To trace all the various acts by which the Virginians asserted their authority would be impossible here. They precipitated a war with the savages, which was openly sought by Connolly, for he says in a letter, in July 19th, 1774, to St. Clair, who had counselled moderation, "I am determined no longer to be a dupe to their amicable professions, but on the contrary, shall pursue every measure to offend them." Amer. Arch. Series 4, Vol. 1; p. 678.

The same Dr. Connolly, writing to the Lord Dunmore, March 24th, 1774, after a fullsome address, says, "you have it now in your power, my Lord, to render the name of Dunmore, as memorable in Virginia as that of Marlborough in Great Britain. Do not let the opportunity slip." American Archives; Ser. 4; Vol. 1; Page 278. How he proceded to do it is a matter of history. Connolly in pursuance of his plan of affronting the Indians, tried to arrest the friendly Shawanees, who piloted traders into Pittsburgh and protected them from the Mingos en route. Letters of Arthur St. Clair, Amer. Arch. Vol. 1, p. 474.

Mr. Butler was a trader who seems to have sided with Pennsylvania. Michael Cresap *attached his canoes about 90 miles below Pittsburgh, and on April 24th, 1774, killed and scalped the two Indian guides, and then attacked the Shawaneese chiefs. About the same time a party headed

* This charge has been vigorously denied by one of his officers and ardent admirers, who afterwards married his widow.



THE CHURCHES OF CANONSBURG

by Greathouse, treacherously murdered and then scalped, nine Indians at the Baker's near Yellow Creek. As a result the inhabitants of Raccoon and Wheeling Creek fled from the settlements. Amer. Archives, Ser. 4; Vol. 1; page 468. Letter of Devereux Smith. That this would provoke retaliation was well understood, and not until Logan had returned with 13 scalps was he satisfied for the loss of his relations, and justly laying the blame where it belonged, said, "that he would sit still until he heard what the long knife (the Virginians) would say." Amer. Archives; Vol. 1; p. 456, Vol. 1, 474.

On June 20th, 1774, Dunmore advises sending Capt. Wm. Crawford against the Indians, and let the cat out of the bag still further when he adds, "I would recommend it to all officers going out on parties, to make as many prisoners as they can, of women and children, and should you be so fortunate as to reduce those savages to sue for peace, I would not grant it to them on any terms, till they were effectually chastised for their insolence, and then on no terms without bringing in six of their heads, as hostages, for their future good behavior, and these to be relieved annually, and that they trade with us only for what they want." Amer. Archives Series 4, Vol 1, page 473.

Here is the solution of the whole matter. The attempted arrests of friendly Indians,—who were piloting white men, who were Pennsylvania's adherents to safety;—the instigations of forays such as Logan's, so that retaliation could be disguised as a war of defence; and Connolly's subsequent ignominious arrest and detention, all show how he duped the people of Washington County, and how bitterly they suffered long after his removal, by the Indian massacres in retaliation for his misdeeds. Truly "the evil that men do lives after them".

But what as to Dunmore. To add to the double damnation of Lord Dunmore in the eyes of his former subjects,

I will only add, that when "menaced by one branch of the legislature and abandoned by the other," he had fled on board a British man of war, in the Chesapeake; accused of trying to incite the negroes in Virginia to rise and massacre their masters, his vindication fails so utterly. For in a letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, to Lord Dunmore, dated August 2nd, 1775, we read as follows, "My Lord, the hope you held out to us in your letter of May 1st, that you should be able to collect among the Indians, negroes and other persons, a force sufficient, if not to subdue the rebellion, at least to defend the government, was encouraging; but I find by your letters, delivered to me by Lieutenant Collins, that you have been obliged from the violence of the times, menaced by one branch of the legislature, and abandoned by the other, to yield up all the powers of Government and retire yourself on board the Fowey." Amer. Archives, Ser. 4; Vol. 3; page 6.

"The Chartee or Shirtee Settlements"

The "Chartee or Shirtee Settlements" before mentioned, can now be examined more carefully. When Doctor McMillan, after his first missionary visit here, in August of 1775, had decided to come to this country, he bought a farm. As the recitals in old deeds are good evidence, I give the way they locate his land and describe the parties. The deed is dated September 9th, 1777, "Know all men by these presents, that we Michael Thomas and Thomas Cook of Shirtee's Settlement, in the County of Youghiogheny and Commonwealth of Virginia, Farmers, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred ninety-five pounds fifteen shillings and six pence current lawful money of the State of Pennsylvania, to us in hand well and truly paid by John McDowell Esq., of the Settlement, County and Commonwealth aforesaid, Trustee, Agent and Attorney in fact, to John McMillan, Clergyman (?) of Faggs' Mannour and Chester County in the State above said for and on behalf of said John McMillan * * * * grant, bargain

and sell, etc., all our right, title, claim, etc., of, in and to a certain tract of land late the property of Thomas Cook aforesaid, and now in the possession, tenure and occupation of the aforesaid Michael Thomas, situate, lying and being in the Settlement, County and Commonwealth aforesaid, on the western side of the eastern prong of Shirtee's Creek. Bounded on the south by lands of Paul Froman, on the west by those of Samuel Shannon, on the north by those of Doctor Morgan and on the east by the prong aforesaid and containing, as by the platt may more fully appear, three hundred and thirteen acres and four tenths."

You will not fail to notice the location of the Shirtee Settlement, nor the fact that it is put in Virginia. This deed was recorded in Youghiogheny County Court on March 24, 1778, Dorsey Pentecost, being clerk.

The Shirtee Settlement was perhaps a vague term, as to boundary, but I think the centre of at least an influential branch, if not its Capital, was the region around what is now the town of Linden, North Strabane Township, near which was Paul Froman's Mill. The influence of this powerful settlement, whose inhabitants very naturally were adherents of the jurisdiction of Virginia, is plainly manifested in many ways.

The first owner of the Mill was Paul Froman. He was also the patentee of about 1700 acres of land in that section. The Mill afterwards became the property of Dorsey Pentecost and finally that of Walter Buchanan, who moved from Canonsburg to it about 1806. Both Frohman & Pentecost succeeded in making it the nucleus of most of the roads in this part of the country, and it does not seem a far-fetched conclusion—that they hoped to make it the future county seat; when a new county should be organized.

Mr. Crumrine, in his history, prints a part of the records of the Court of West Augusta and Youghiogheny Coun-

ties, Virginia, in which we see that many roads led to it; it had road viewers and supervisors in plenty; and grand jurors and justices in abundance.

There was already a road from Gist's in Fayatte County to Ft. Dunmore (as Pittsburg was then called); to connect with it, another was viewed crossing the River at James Devore's Ferry (Monongahela) and thence "to Paul Froman's on Shirtees Creek"; and to show they were prompt, this was done the first day the Court sat.

On the 23rd of February, 1775, the next day, a road view is ordered from "Thomas Gist's to Paul Froman's Mill on Shirtees Creek", and another from Redstone Old Fort (Brownsville) to the same Mill. And the viewers from this section were Paul Froman, Thos. Edgerton, Nathaniel Blackmore and James Innis.

For the protection of the cattle, there were brands or ear marks recorded in Court. John Canon early records his, "A crop in the right ear, and a half crop in the left". He had become a member of the Court the day before.

May 16th, 1775, on motion of Capt. Paul Froman, it is ordered that James Innis (a surveyor), Thomas Edgerton and John Munn "view the most convenient way from Froman's Mill on Shirtees Creek to Froman's Mill on the east side of the Monongahela."

September 22nd, 1775, Catfish Camp secures a road to Providence Mounce's Mill on the Youghiogheny, and it became the duty of Evan Williams to keep it in order from Pigeon Creek to the east fork of "Churtees Creek", and that of Garret Van Emen thence to Catfish.

On April 17th, 1776, "Solomon Froman is appointed constable in room of Nathaniel Blackmore, and it is ordered that he be summoned before Mr. John Canon to be sworn into said office."

On the same day, the viewers report in favor of the

road from the east fork to Froman's Mill on the Monongahela, and John Munn is made surveyor of this end of it.

The District of West Augusta, having ceased to exist in October, 1776, by its subdivision into the Counties of Yohogania, Ohio and Monongalia, a new order goes into effect. Yohogania embraced almost all of Washington, (as it now is).

At the first sessions of the new County Court, John Canon receives his title as Colonel of Militia.

It proceeded to lay out more roads centering at Froman's Mill; appointed Justices of the Peace, Constables and Road Viewers, and divided the entire County into districts, in which some one was appointed to take a tour and tender the oath of allegiance and fidelity to the State of Virginia, to all free male inhabitants within the same. John McDowell's district extended from the mouth of the east fork of Chartiers, to the head waters of Peter's Creek, and thence south along the east side of Chartiers Creek to the south bounds of the county beyond Washington; and Andrew Swearingen took the west side of the Creek from Houstonville to the head waters of Cross Creek and thence south to a similar point.

This old Virginia Court had to punish for contempt as well as other Courts in later days. "Robert Hamilton, a prisoner in the Sheriff's custody, came into Court and in the grocest and most imperlite manner, insulted the Court, and Richard Yeates in particular: ordered that the Sheriff confine the feet of the said Robert Hamilton in the lower rails of the fence for the space of five minutes."

Froman in 1777, sold his mill to Dorsey Pentecost, but the east ork of "Charteers" seems to continue a Mecca for roads for another is ordered from the Court House east of the Monongahela crossing Peter's Creek to this Mill, which was soon opened.

But Catfish Camp had hard work to get its road to this

Mill, for in 1778, though formerly applied for by Richard Yeates, it was found necessary to attach the viewers for contempt, among them James Allison and Henry Taylor, the ancestors of Judge Taylor and Jonathan Allison.

David Phillips and others wanted another road to Pentecost's Mill, and had a view from thence to the present site of McKeesport.

John Munn (of Munntown) at the same Court is licensed to keep an "Ordinary" or Tavern, and doubtless conformed to the rules of Court in charging a shilling for one-half pint of whiskey, with the addition of six pence for making it into a "tody", or one shilling nine pence for a hot breakfast; while "Lodging with Clean Sheets per Night" cost only six pence.

Samuel Cook condemned land on Brusky Run to build a Mill, in 1778; and Nicholas Peas the following year on Chartiers.

These references to the "Shurtees Settlement" have been made, not to weary the listeners, but to show the influence exerted from 1774 to 1780 by this settlement in the Courts of Virginia, and because it shows indisputable evidence that such men as Paul Froman, Dorsey Pentecost, John Canon, Matthew Ritchie, Joshua Wright and John McDowell lived here. All of which sat as Justices of the Court except the first.

As Justice of the Peace from the other side of Chartiers, we see the names of James Scott and John Reed, both of Miller's Run; as early as 1779 and though a little further south than our immediate vicinity, we mention James Edgar and Henry Taylor.

As road viewers, we find the names of Thomas Cook, who sold Dr. McMillan his home farm; and James Innis who surveyed it, John Munn of Munntown, and Thomas Edgerton; mention is made of others that locates Evan Williams on Pigeon Creek; Garret Van Emen near the

mouth of the east fork of Chartiers; Samuel Cook on Brush Run; David Phillips in Cecil Township; and James Allison in Chartiers; and Nathaniel Blackmore, John Crow, John McMillan, Henry Johnston, John McDowell, John Paramour and Thomas Rankin, all in North Strabane Township. The names cited include only a small proportion of the inhabitants; they merely fix a few of them in such locations that there can be no mistake. There were many other families named, which I feel sure belonged in the vicinity, but it was only occasionally that one was designated by his locality in such a way as to make his location beyond dispute.

In that day, as well as this, only a small proportion of the names of the inhabitants appeared on the Court records, and in each of the road views mentioned, the tithables within three miles on each side of the proposed roads, were ordered to work on it, showing the presence of a pretty considerable population.

Having considered the "Chartee" or "Shirtee" Settlement and shown its existence as early as 1774, in sufficient numbers to be a decided factor in politics, let us turn our attention to Canonsburg.

Canon's Mill

The earliest mention I can find of a mill here is in Washington County records, where at the first term of Court, beginning October 2nd, 1781, viewers were appointed to view a road from "John Cannon, his mill, to Pittsburgh."

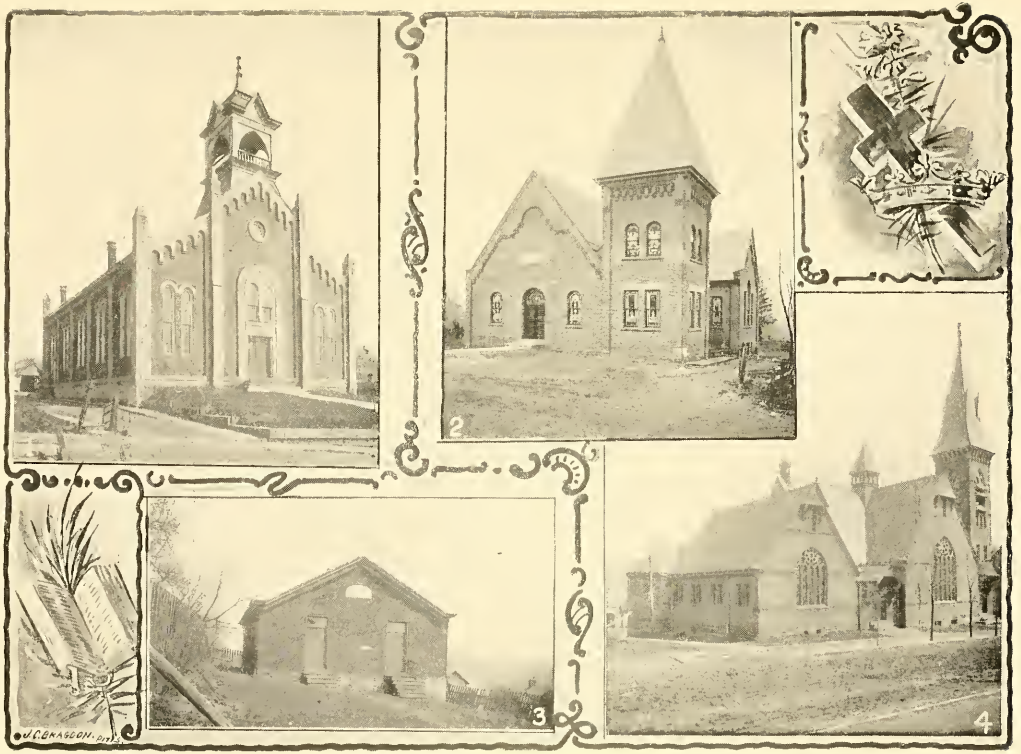
Had a mill existed here prior to that time, under the Virginia regime, it is not probable that John Canon, sitting as one of the Justices of that Court, and seeing many views to the Froman Mill on the east branch of Chartiers, and afterwards to the same mill, when sold to Dorsey Pentecost, would have forgotten to divert some attention to his own property.

However, Canon was not remiss in urging his claims for recognition, when he once got started. He tried to have the County Seat located here, and had so far succeeded as to call forth an indignant protest from David Hoge, in a letter to the Supreme Executive Council, in November, 1781, in which he hints that he had heard, that a gentleman who would shortly appear as a member of that body, "had used his schemes to have the Court House and town on his own land about eight miles distant from the place where the trustees agreed on," viz. Catfish, and suggesting, that, if Canon used his influence to prevent the council from giving their approbation to the selection that the trustees had made, that their prudent attention, if such a thing should be attempted, would be gratefully acknowledged by their most obedient servant, David Hoge. Washington County Courts of Justice p. 217.

The location of Canon's house and mill is shown in a curious way.

A road to Jacob Bausman's Ferry opposite Pittsburgh was reported in June of 1784, and ordered to be opened thirty-three feet wide. On the map showing its courses and distances, both the house of John Canon and General Neville are shown, and as they both were viewers and signed the order filed with the plot, it is not probable that they would sanction a false location for either house. This plot may throw some light on a locally disputed question, as to the site of John Canon's House.

The authority to grant roads having been for some time now vested at Washington, instead of the east fork of Chartiers having its own way undisputed, the County seat seems to have been somewhat jealous of our Founder's influence, for at No. 6 September Sessions of 1784, we find the following curious record:—"To the Worshipful Court of Washington County now sitting, The petition of a number of the inhabitants of Strabane Township hum-



THE CHURCHES OF CANONSBURG

bly showeth; your petitioners being well assured from the Great Care taken by your Worships, respecting Laying out of Roads for the Benefit of the Public at Large,and also to prevent too Great a Number therof: Consider our property and Personal Services Secure from the Imposition of Individuals, it was therefore resolved by the said Court that all Petitions for by-roads should be laid over until the principale Roads should be Laid off, also that all Subsequent Petitions for New Roads should not be admitted of, unless setting off at a Reasonable Distance from the principale Roads; it was also Resolved by the Sd Court that the Following principal Roads Should be Sufficient, viz: One from the town of Washington to Pittsburg; Second, from the sd town towards Wheeling; thirdly, One Leading (from) sd town to Redstone Old Fort; forthly; one towards the forks of Ten Mile Creek; fifthly, one leading Lyndlys Mill and, Sixthly, One towards Mingo bottom; Seventhly one toward baker's or Rardon's Bottom; Eighthly, One towards Devores Ferry: yet not with standing that Great Care your petitioners find that John Canon, Esqr., has some years agoe obtained an order from Sd Court for the viewing of a publick Road from the said town of Washington to his mill, and have some Resons to believe that the Sd Return will be offered to the Sd Court for Confirmation, we your humble Petitioners, Conceive that the Sd Road as it is now Laid out, to be unnecessary because it runs the Greatest part of the way parallel with the Pittsburgh Road, and about three quarters of a mile Distant, also that it is near seven miles Distance from Sd Mill to Sd town, and that it is only Six Miles from sd town to Mr. McMullen's Meeting. hous, and but one mile from Sd Meeting house to Cannon's Mill; therefore as the Public Can Receive no benefit, nor Individuals any great Damage by not granting Said Road, we therefore pray that the sd return may not be

confirmed, as it now stands, and your Pet., etc., will be in Duty bound to pray."

The above is signed by about sixty subscribers, but the ink has so far faded that I could only make out a few names, among which, however, are Nathaniel White, Samuel Pollock, John White, Hugh Cotton, John Munel, David Parkeson, Isaac Leet and Jonathan Leet.

This road had many vicissitudes before it was allowed to rest. It was applied for by the citizens of Cecil and Strabane Townships, who as usual, allege the inconvenience under which they labor for want of it.

It was reviewed in 1786 and reported on favorably by a Board, three of whom were John Dodd, James Allison and Craig Ritchie, and in the following year, another view was made in which, although it was admitted to be the best route, two of the viewers thought it too near the one already existing.

The First Plot of Canonsburg

Two years later, April 15, 1788, Canon laid out the first plan of the town. It shows the mill in the present location, and the names of purchasers were inserted on the various lots.

It was proved, after his death, on the oath of James McCready, one of the subscribing witnesses to the agreement thereto attached, and recorded January 24, 1800.

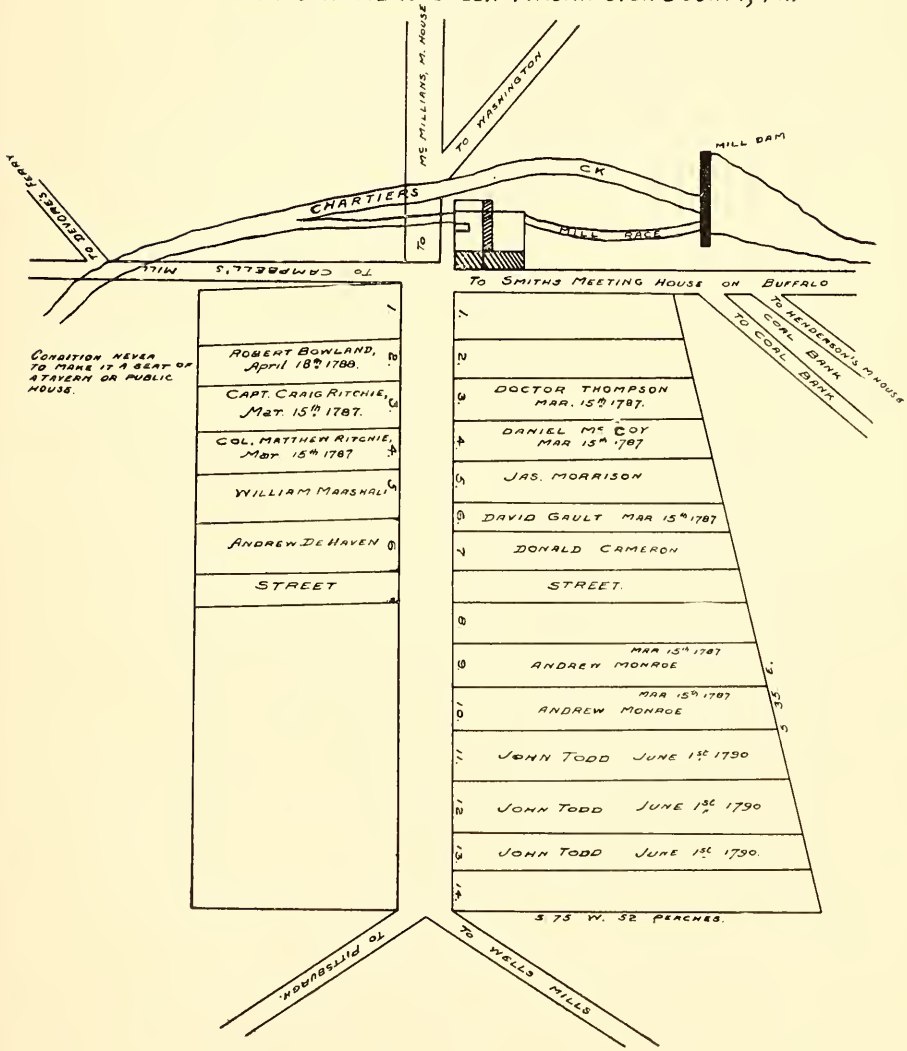
Though recorded as a plan of the town, more properly speaking it was a guarantee on the part of the proprietor to convey the land when a patent was issued which was not done until the 27th day of March 1793. The delay may be partly accounted for by the following: At a special meeting of the Board of Property 30th Aug. 1790, "James Allison Esq., on oath declared that the two tracts called 'Sugar Grove' and 'Canonhill' for which John Canon applies for Patents, do not interfere with the land in dispute between said Canon & John Boys. Therefore Patents are allowed." Pa. Archives Series 3, Vol. 1, Page 709.

PLAN OF TOWN

Laid off by

JOHN CANON

UPON CHARTIERS CREEK WASHINGTON COUNTY, PA.



Endorsed on the plot in the following agreement:

"The above is a Draught of a town laid off as above upon Chartiers Creek, Washington County by the subscriber, John Canon, who hereby binds himself, his heirs, Administrators and assigns to fulfill and perform the following Article, viz., agreeable to the conditions inserted on the above plan, to those who have all as those who may become purchasers to convey to them, their heirs and assigns, their respective lots of ground, in which their names is inserted, the Inhabitants of the above Town to have privilege of Cutting and using underwood and taking coal for their own use, forever, gratis the purchasers to pay the said Canon three pounds purchase and one Dollar Annually, forever, afterwards, and to build a stone, frame and hewed log house at least twenty feet in front, with a Stone or brick chimney within two years from the date of their purchase it is to be understood by underwood that it is only timber or wood that is laying down upon the Ground and only in land or woods that is not inclosed, they shall not presume to go and take wood for fire within any enclosure without leave first asked and obtained, a convenient road to be allowed to the coal bank near John Laughlins' the road to be only as laid off above and the bank as Described above. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this 15th April, 1788.

JOHN CANON (Seal)

Attest:

James McCready
Robert Bowland

Washington County } ss:

Before the undersigned one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared James McCready one of the Witnesses to

the within Article or Conveyance who being duely sworn declared he was a witness to the Said Article or Conveyance and signed his name as such, and that he saw John Canon sign his name to the within article or conveyance and put his name thereto Sworn and Subscribed before me this twenty-third of January, 1800.

JAMES McCREADY JAMES ALLISON.

Recorded and compared with the original the 24th day of January A. D. 1800.

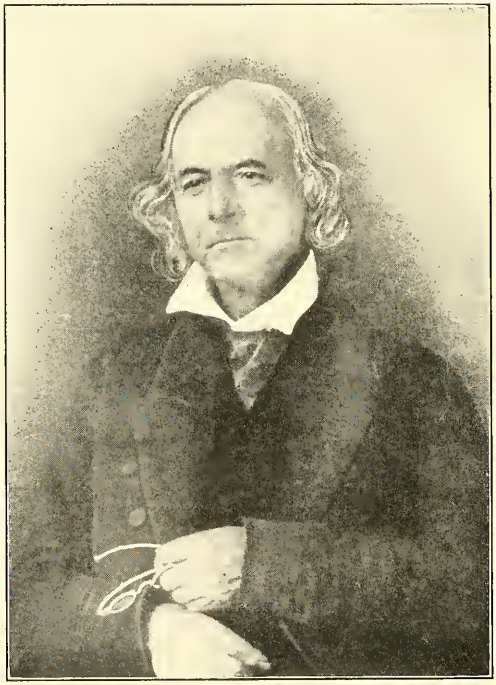
SAMUEL CLARKE, Recorder.

See Records of Washington County, Deed Book P. page 441.

At the date of the original plot Dr. Thompson was the owner of No. 3 on the west side of Central Avenue, and north of him, came in regular order, Daniel McCoy, James Morrison, David Gault and Donald Cameron, which brings us to College Street; North of that Andrew Munroe and John Todd own all the land except two lots, to Pitt Street. On the east side of Central Avenue and beginning at Water Street, the first lot is unsold, then in regular order came Robert Bowland, the miller, Capt. Craig Ritchie, Col. Matthew Ritchie, William Marshall and ending at College Street, Abraham De Haven.

Roads are shown to Mr. Smith's Meeting House on Buffalo; to Dr. McMillan's Meeting House and to Gamble's Mill from the lower side of town; and to Well's Mill on Cross Creek, and Pittsburgh from the top of the hill.

In the early part of 1795, Canon began to deed the lots rapidly to the owners, many of whom held agreements to convey from him, a few of which were recorded. In that of Craig Ritchie, dated Feb. 6th, 1788, it is agreed to con-



REV. ROBERT PATTERSON

THE FIRST STUDENT OF CANONSBURG ACADEMY, JULY 1791. BORN APRIL 1, 1773 AT STILLWATER, N. Y. DIED SEPTEMBER 5, 1854.

vey a certain lot held by John Canon under Virginia Certificate. It is highly probable that many of these people had been living on the lots for a considerable time when they got their deeds in 1795. The above agreement describes the lot as beginning at Craig Ritchie's House.

Canonsburg Academy

Of all these deeds, there stands out one which has brought him more fame than all the others. The credit of the Act has been largely obscured by the local historians, not that I would detract from the sacrifice endured by the Professors and contributors to the "Academy and Library Company," but to offer this long delayed tribute to the man who furnished the sinews of war, who gave the lot and built the College, when all the rest were too poor to do it. He gave the lot upon which the old Stone College stood, not the colleges as they now stand, but on the other side of the street and further up the hill, where the west ward Public Schools are situated.

Here's to thee, old John Canon, Colonel of the backwoods Militia!

Of that first academy, there were two students, William Riddle and Robert Patterson; and by a remarkable, as well as fortunate conjunction of circumstances, we can look upon a photograph of one of them, who recited the first lesson under the sassafras bushes, in the corner of a worm fence; and add his account of the founding of that famous institution.

When you remember that Daguerre did not write his account of his discoveries in photography, until 1839, the picture of a man, who, if living to-day, would probably be 129 years old, is quite a curiosity and his account of the founding of the famous Academy being that of an eye witness, is doubly interesting.

The following account of the founding of the Academy and Library Company, afterwards Jefferson College, is taken from the History of Jefferson College, page 25.

"It appears that in July, 1791, it was settled at a conference of citizens and ministers, numerously attended, that the incipient steps should be taken, for getting the Academy under way. Col. Canon made a donation of a lot for the erection of a suitable building. He undertook to put up immediately, a large stone edifice, and have it prepared as soon as possible; his expenses to be reimbursed afterwards, as the trustes might be able to provide. In the meantime it was thought proper to open the Academy at once, on the ensuing day. The Rev. Robert Patterson's account of the proceedings of that day is so graphic and life-like, that we shall let him tell the story:

"An appointment was made to met the next day, Tuesday, 10 o'clock A. M., in a small English school house, near Canon's mill, about half a mile from the village; and a general invitation was given to all friends of learning and of their country, to attend; and then and there to see the Canonsburg Academy opened. Meantime, Mr. David Johnston, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, who had, without success, ben trying to open a Latin school in the town of Washington, was invited to attend, and take charge of the young Academy. At 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning, many citizens were present on the ground, to witness the opening of the first academy on the west side of the Allegheny Mountains. Of the inhabitants and vicinity, there were present, Judges McDowell and Alison, Craig Ritchie, Esq., and Rev. Matthew Henderson, living at a few miles distance. Mr. Henderson was a Scotch Seceder clergyman, blessed with Scotch talents, Scotch education, Scotch theology, and Scotch piety; his memory is still highly cherished, as a worthy cotemporary of Messrs. McMillan and Smith. These three ministers with Mr. Johnston and two pupils, William Riddle and Robert Patterson, who had recited a few lesson to Abraham Scott, took their position under the shade of some

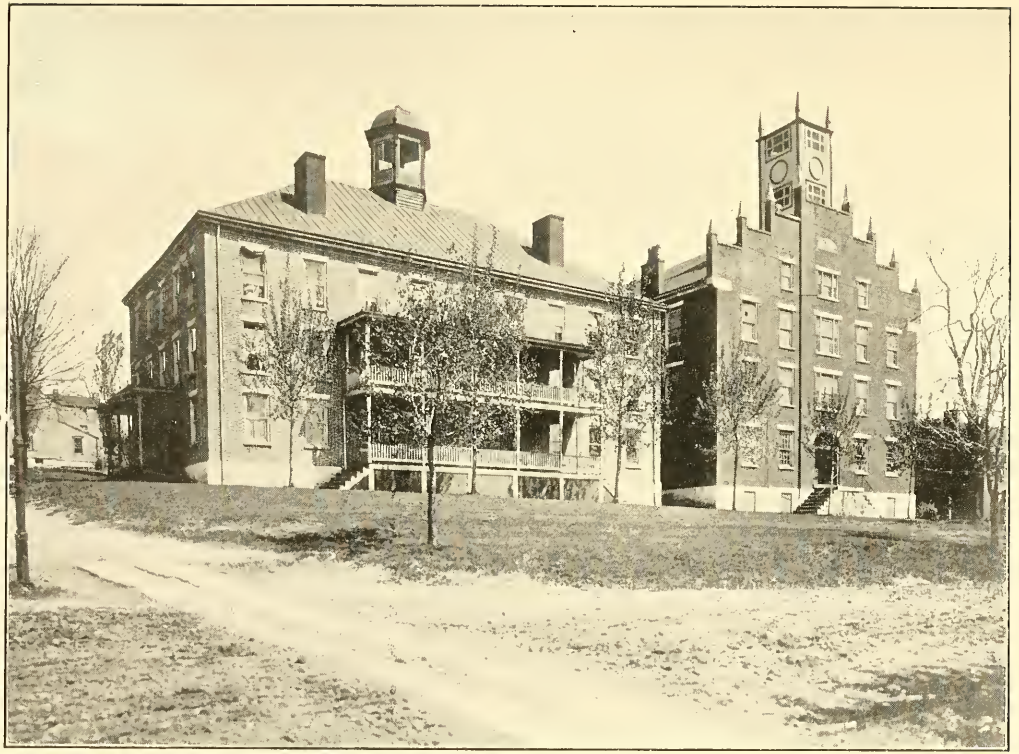
sassafras bushes, growing in a worm fence, near the English school house, which could not be vacated for a short time. And here, under the pleasant shade of the green bushes, protected from the rays of a July sun, (corona populi parva circumstante,) the two pupils, with 'Corderii Colloquia' in their hands were just about to read 'Quid agis,' when Mr. McMillan addressing his two brethren, and the small assembly, remarked in substance as follows: 'This is an important day in our history, affecting deeply the interests of the church, and of the country in the West; affecting our own interests for time and for eternity, and the interests it may be of thousands and thousands yet unborn.' And, turning to Mr. Henderson, asked him to engage in prayer, seeking the blessings of God on the institution now to be opened. And I must say, the broad vernacular pronunciation of the Scotch never could be more delightful and impressive than it was then; while everything proper to the occasion appeared to be remembered in prayer, by this good man. The first lesson in the Academy was soon recited. Robert Patterson, being the senior, led, beginning the first sentence as above, 'Quid agis'. After a short lesson was recited, and before they were dismissed, Mr. McMillan requested Mr. Smith to close the exercise with prayer. Mr. Smith, in conclusion, was as solemn and appropriate as Mr. Henderson had been in the beginning; and the little assembly retired much gratified, and with high expectations, which have been abundantly realized. The English school was soon vacated, and served for a place of recitation till autumn, when Col. Canon had so far progressed with a fine large stone building, as to afford convenient accommodation, both to teachers and students. Mr. Miller, who had been the teacher in the English school, was retained, and employed as professor in the mathematical sciences, and proved to be an instructor of the highest order, and con-

tinued to fill the place thirty or forty years; as long as he was able to discharge its duties. His memory is greatly cherished by hundreds, who were taught by him. In a short time, more students came from the region of country around than could have been generally expected, in a land that, a few years before, had been an Indian wilderness. On the roll, in a few weeks, were entered Abraham Scott, Robert Patterson, William Wylie, Thomas Swearengen, James Snodgrass, Ebenezer Henderson, James Duncan, James Allison, Joseph Doddridge, Darsey Pentecost, James Dunlavy, Daniel McLean, William Kerr, Philip Doddridge, and Alexander Campbell." Extract of a letter from Mr. Patterson to Dr. M. Brown in 1845.

The institution was got up by an association of ministers and citizens. They called themselves, "Contributors to the Academy and Library:" and about the time above indicated, by previous appointment, they met, and chose by ballot, trustees. The charter, which they after obtained, designated them "The Academy and Library Company." Their constitution required nine trustees to be elected, annually, by those who had contributed to the Academy and Library, agreeably to certain regulations. But of their earlier meetings, previous to the date of their charter, and of their mode of proceeding, nothing but tradition now remains. We do not know with certainty who were the nine first trustees. There can be little doubt, however, that they were nearly, if not quite the same that we find in the recorded minutes in 1796.*

*When the Academy was fairly under way, and the new building finished and opened for instructions, the trustees inserted in the Pittsburg Gazette, in 1792, the following notice:

"The building for the Academy at Canonsburg is now finished, and the institution under good regulations. The Grammer School is taught by Mr. Johnston; and the English, Euclid's Elements of Geometry, Trigonometry, Plain and Spherical, with the latter's application to Astronomy; Navigation, Surveying, Mensuration, Gauging, Dialing Conic Sections, Algebra, and Book-keeping, by Mr. Miller; both well known for their attention and abilities. Boarding in the neighhorhood to be



JEFFERSON COLLEGE AS IT NOW APPEARS

At the risk of being tedious, I am going to recite the names of some of the original grantees as taken from the records in Washington after Canon got his patent.

On the west side of Central Avenue beginning at Pike Street, first comes Abraham Dehaven, then Walter Buchanan, Francis Irwin, John McDowell and Thomas Speers. Above College Street, Samuel Neill, Andrew Munro, John McMillan, the Academy lot, Patrick Scott, Hugh Hanna, John Murphy, William Webster and Thomas Orr, which brings you to Pitt Street. Above Pitt Street are Samuel Moreland and Elizabeth Andrews.

Then turning eastward along the north side of Pitt Street are William Hays, David Ralston, Andrew Duncan, Samuel Miller, William Wick, Abraham Singhorse and Moses Foster.

On the eastern side of Central Avenue, William Canon owned for a while, the lot where Morgan's store stands, above him came Robert Bowland, Craig and Mathew Ritchie, Abraham DeHaven, Henry Westbay, William Thompson, then College Street. North of College Street are three vacant lots afterwards Jefferson College; then about opposite the old Academy property, is Philip Duncomb's; then going North, John McGill, George McCook, Witherspoon and Hanna in partnership, Thomas McGiffin, and William McCall which again brings us to Pitt Street.

Before the town which Canon had founded became a Borough, its proprietor had passed from the scene of ac-

had at good houses, at the low price of ten pounds, payable, principally in produce. The situation is healthy, near the center of Washington County; the fund raised by the Presbytery, and to be applied for the support af a certain number of Scholars, annually, is directed by the Synod of the district to be appropriated to this Academy. It is hoped the public will regard with a favorable eye this institution, and give it all the encouragement it may deserve.

"Nov. 2, 1792.

"N B. The printers in the different states will please insert the above in their newspapers."

tion. I have never yet seen mention of the date of his death, further than to fix it in the year 1798. Let us see if we can locate it more definitely. The account of his administrators filed after his death, shows many little things hardly worthy of mention. But among others it shows that Samuel Witherspoon had made his jacket and breeches; and Jerrard Greer had made the shoes for the Colonel and Miss Jean and Thomas Merchant had collected his tax; while William Clarke furnished coffee at fifty cents a pound, to the family, by the hands of "Peggy".

Apparently seeing the end approach, on the 4th day of April, 1798, the Colonel makes his will, and called in his friends John McMillan and Craig Ritchie to witness it. In it, he mentions his children, viz:—William, Joshua, John, Jr., Jean and Abigail, who were provided for by a deed of the Mill property executed on that day, in which he charges against the land conveyed to the boys, a legacy for the two girls; and then directs that his other children, Margaret, Anne and Samuel shall have such "a decent and reasonable education as the Estate will Bare." Will Book, Vol. 1, Page 367.

The account further shows that the bier, upon which all that was mortal of John Canon, was composed for burial, was made by James Donaldson; and Joshua Ledlie secured for Mrs. Canon the trappings of genteel mourning, in order that the amenities be not outraged. The bill for these articles fixes the date of his death as November 6th, 1798. The numerous pairs of black gloves, I can understand, but the double and single Barcelona handkerchiefs, bought for men and women, are beyond my ken.

Dr. Bradford was apparently his physician, but if he sanctioned and Canon took, one-tenth of the medicines with which the apothecary charged him, it is a wonder that he survived so long. Calomel, though not cheap, seems to have been plenty.

In the "Vandue List" it is shown that William Mercer paid $5.50 for 67 lbs. of old iron and Robert Black paid $7.25 for 2 wagon tires.

In the account of Wm. & Joshua Canon Sen. against the estate we can see evidence to support the fact that Chartiers Creek was used as a public highway, as the legislature declared it to be.

	£	s.	d.
4 days at Boating	1	0	0
May 7, 1794, 3 days Boating 5/	0	15	0
To hand saw and a ax lent and lost at the Boat, ax 11/ saw 7/6	1	8	0
Aug. 1795, to horse and self for 2 months going to Baltimore	19	0	0
2 Beef cattle took to Baltimore	9	0	0
October 12, 1792, Col. Canon to Patrick Lindsey, made 300 rails and found myself	0	12	0
do, for Wm. Thompson, 74 Rails that he took from my clearing to fence the Breek Yeard	0	2	9
To Bracking flax for Mrs. Canon..	4 days		
Cutting a pit for the Kog wheal that Drives the Burr Stones ..	12 days		
Cutting below the Tail Raise a water Curse for Botes	6 days		

On Dec. 4, 1798 Col. Canon's widow receipts for divers articles amounting to $828.00 including 1 Mulatto lad with 12 years to serve valued at $160.00.

The account of Wm. Clarke against the estate shows that whiskey was only worth 1 shilling 4½ pence by the quart, while coffee was 3 shillings and 3 pence per pound, and muslin 15 shilings per yard, 6 yards amounting to £4 10s. 0d.

Thos. Hutcheson has a long account commencing October 25, 1784:

To 1 day at wheel mending .....2s. 6d.
To 3 days sawing shingles and cogs ...10s. 6d.

and other occupations at the same rate per day, including work in the Rease (race), dam mending, cleaning out "old Lim kill," road making, and work in the Still house.

In addition to John Canon's donation of the lot upon which the old Stone College stood, he advanced the money to build it, and waited years upon the struggling contributors to reimburse him, in contributions so small that they are almost pitiful. Two or three bushels of wheat from the men, one or two yards of linen from the women compose the list, to be sold and the money contributed to that fund. To illustrate the spirit which animated the good people of this whole section, and their devotion to the struggling Academy, as well as the privation it must have been to John Canon to wait so long for his money, I quote from the account of Professor Robert Patterson, as given in the History of Jefferson College, page 30.

"The contributions for the support of the Academy were gathered from the congregations of the Presbyterians and Seceders through the Western country. The ministers were, in many cases, very active in gathering these offerings from their people. They consisted not solely in money, but in produce and articles of every description. These offerings (chiefly by promise or subscription,) were made by nearly all Presbyterian congregations in the West, for the purpose, both of refunding Col. Canon the cost of the Academy, and of aiding in payment of teachers, besides occasionally with a view of raising means to support, in part, young men who were candidates for the gospel ministry. The history of the proceedings of one minister, the Rev. Joseph Patterson, will suffice for a sample of what was generally done in the congregations

west of the mountains. It appears, by the dates of the payments made by him, sometimes to Mr. McMillan, as treasurer, and sometimes to Col. Canon, that the cost of the Academy was not all refunded for several years—some of the receipts being as late as 1794-5. There are found among the papers of Mr. Patterson, two subscription rolls of different date, but containing in part the same names; the latest of the two being dated in June, 1794; the last also stating that it was for the purpose both of finishing the Academy, and for aid to poor and pious students. One of the papers has about one hundred and twenty names, and the other not quite one hundred. But little was paid at the time of subscribing; and but little, at any time, in money; great part in grain, wheat, rye, and no small portion in linen; the linen chiefly by the ladies; some by widows and some by wives and daughters of the men who had subscribed. The sums were in Pennsylvania currency; and a large portion of them did not exceed 3s. 9d.—7s. 6d., and a few advanced to 10s. and 15s., and still fewer to one pound. The grain was delivered in mills, and then sold. The linen was sometimes delivered to the treasurer, to be disposed of as he could, at 1s. 1½d, per yard, or 25 cents. One subscription was to be paid in whiskey! All are reported on the papers to have been fully paid; and the amount of both subscriptions reached nearly $350.

The following subscription paper will be found very interesting: "June 9th, 1794. We, whose names are hereunto signed, desirous to forward the Academy building, at Canonsburg, do promise, for that purpose, to pay, or deliver into some mill, in the bounds of the Rev. Joseph Patterson's congregation, the quantities of wheat or rye annexed to our names, and deliver the receipts thereof to said Patterson, on or before the end of this present year."

The following may be selected among the long list of names found on this interesting paper:

James Ewing .....5 bushels of wheat, at 2 shillings
William Flanegan ...1 " " " "
Robert Moor .....2 " " " "
John Logan .....2 " " " "
James Laird .....4 " " " "
Samuel Riddle, (in money,).....7s. 6d.
John McMillan, cash $1
Joseph Patterson, cash $6
Mrs. Vallandingham .....6 yards of linen
Mrs. Elenor Thompson .....3 yards of linen
John Kelso .....4 bushels of wheat
John Thompson .....4 bushels of wheat
James McBride .....3 bushels of rye
Hugh McCoy .....4 bushels of rye
Alex. McCandless .....2 bushels of wheat
John Cardike, (a pious negro,) ...2 bushels of wheat
George Vallandingham, cash .....7s. 6d.
Mrs. Nesbit .....3 yards of linen
Widow Riddle .....3 yards of linen
Her daughter Mary .....3 yards of linen

"The value of these old papers," says Professor R. Patterson, who furnished them to Dr. Brown, "consists in their exhibiting the spirit of the enterprise, the objects for which the institution was founded, and the humble resources of his patrons.."

John Canon gave a lot of four and one quarter acres to the Presbyterian "Hill" Church, describing it as follows: to "the Trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of Chartiers, in the county of Washington, holding the Religious principles contained in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, as ratified and adopted by the Synod of New York and Phila-

delphia, held at Philadelphia the 16th day of May, 1788." Date, June 30th, 1798. Deed Book O. page 357. The consideration in this deed was one dollar, therefore, I conclude that he was allied with the Presbyterian faith, for he charged the Seceders $45.00 for 4 acres 2 rods and 15 perches, which was deeded to "Nicholas Little, Samuel Agnew, Thomas Meaneary, (McNary) David Reed, John Hays, John White and Jeremiah Simpson in behalf of the Associate Congregation of Chartiers Church." Date Dec. 26th, 1797. Deed Book O. page 67.

Three of his children were then attending school as we see by the bill of David Murdoch on a School Article for 5 pounds, 17 shillings 8 pence for one year's tuition.

Although his heart was likely in his own school here, he had made a large subscription for that day, viz.: 10 pounds to the rival Academy at Washington.

In the midst of his days and hardly past the prime of life, he was cut down.

Financial troubles followed soon upon his family, who deserved better things than the harrassment of legal proceedings. The short entries on the docket are not much to inspire to eloquence, but they mutely hold out their hands across the century, to us, to condone the fault, if indeed it be such, to give so much to education as to impoverish ones self.

The Borough

I have left but little time to speak of the Borough proper: It was incorporated on 22nd of February, 1802. The Act creating it is quaint in many particulars. It defines its boundaries as beginning at Brush Run, up the same to line between Craig Ritchie and Samuel Witherspoon; thence to land of Thomas Briceland,—to Wells road—to Nathan Andrews' lot, and to include the "old brue House," thence along the western end of the town lots to the Washington road,—to a white oak marked

'G' on Miller's improvement, near the Creek, and down the same to the beginning.

It defines the requisites of voting, as six month's residence prior to election, and directs the citizens to meet in one of the rooms of the College, on the first Monday of May, between the hours of twelve and six o'clock in the evening, and elect one reputable citizen for Burgess, and five reputable citizens as Town Council, and a High Constable. It imposes a fine of $20.00 on any one who, after election as Burgess or as a member of Town Council, shall refuse or neglect to serve. See Appendix for full text of the act of incorporation.

As many of the town lots had a right to so much coal as was necessary for fuel for one house, from the bank south of town; the Council was empowered to appoint a clerk for the coal bank to regulate its affairs and protect private property.

An election was held on the 3rd day of May, 1802, whereat William Clark was Judge, A. Murdock, Inspector, and Samuel Miller, Clerk. It resulted in the election of Dr. Samuel Murdock as Burgess, and William Clark, Thomas Briceland, William White, John Watson and John Johnson as members of Council; and John McGill as High Constable.

After Council had organized by electing overseers of streets and alleys; viewers of partition walls and fences; and Andrew Munro had been elected Clerk of the Market, it proceeded to issue an edict against "Hogs, shoats, and pigs running at large without Yokes and Rings" and declaring them a forfeiture.

This law was difficult of enforcement, for although the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed a law prohibiting hogs from running at large in this Borough, the aforesaid hogs continued to wander in from the surrounding woods, despite the edict of the city fathers as well as the Legislature

of Pennsylvania. In the Duke of York's Book of Laws, a similar enactment appears for the Borough of Chester one hundred years before Canonsburg was in existence. Duke of York's Laws, page 259.

The first tax levy shows eighty seven names, and the valuations run from ten dollars up to $1,200.00, the majority being between one hundred and three hundred dollars.

At one cent on the dollar, on a valuation of a little over $12,252.00, $122.52 were raised to defray the expenses of the Borough the first year.

During the first year a pair of stocks was erected "to confine offenders in, whose crimes may not merit a greater punishment", and at the same session "Mounte-banks, stage players and exhibitions of puppet shows" who "exhibit in their profession for money" were fined $50.00, and as $2.00 was the usual penalty for average offenses, it is hard to understand this severity.

Thomas Speers was cited to be present at next meeting and present his account as Town Clerk. He was allowed $4.00 for his services "including one paper of ink powder." It was good ink to, for it is almost as bright and clear as the day it was written, although the hand that penned the record has been dust almost a century.

I must consider the living somewhat, and spare you any further recital of these old worthies' history. Some friends have supplied me with details of family genealogy which I had hoped to use, but it has become impossible to do so. So much has already been omitted to bring this within any reasonable length, that the writer doubts the wisdom of the choice between what was accepted and rejected. Not to speak of the Ritchies, Murdocks. Dr. Mercer, the Bricelands, Clarks, Buchanans, Westbays, McCooks, Hays, McGills, and a host of others seems to slight the worthy incorporators of our town, but time forbids

any other course. Of the men and women of our early day, too much can hardly be said in praise. Their faults were of the positive kind as well as their virtues; and it is customary to make fun of the desire of the Scotch-Irish to magnify the past. George Fisher in his "Making of Pennsylvania" p. 178, says "Their excesses in modern times are confined for the most part to somewhat fulsome eulogies of their own merits in the past", and then goes on to admit most of their virtues.

They had among them some turbulent spirits, who moved farther west as civilization became irksome to them, and with their exit took away the element of excitability and resistence to authoriy.

But when all is said this much cannot be denied our ancestors. That they moved in the van of civilization, often far ahead of its outposts and held the field against all odds, the savage, the elements and lead a life that lacked all the amenities, except always this fact, that they planted schools and churches in the heart of the wilderness. They builded not for the passing moment but for all time. If their creed was somewhat strict and their lives seemed devoted to hardships, it was that immolation of self—that disregard of the present discomfort and danger, that fixes its eye on the future, and with a faith that clasps the heights of eternity sees visions, and dreams dreams of empires, while it struggled to gain a foothold, and remain until increasing numbers peopled the land; and laid up the stores of prosperity which we enjoy.

APPENDICES

Appendix "A"

The Act of Incorporation

AN Act to erect the Town of Canonsburg, in the County of Washington into a Borough.

SECTION 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the town of Canonsburgh, in the County of Washington, shall be, and the same is hereby, erected into a borough which shall be called the "Borough of Canonsburgh" and shall be comprised within the following bounds, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of Brush run; thence up said run, to the division line between Craig Ritchie's land and Samuel Witherspoon's lot; thence along the line of said lot, so as to include the same, to Thomas Briceland's land; thence along the line of said land, until it strikes Wells's road; thence to the corner of Nathan Andrews's lot; thence along the north side of the same, to lot attached to the old brew house; thence along said lot so as to include the same, to the west end of the town lots on the west side of the principal street; thence along the end of said lots to the Washington road; thence along the said road southwest to a white oak marked G, at the southwest end of Miller's improvement on Darr Ogle's land; thence a direct course to Chartiers Creek; thence down the same to the place of beginning.

SECTION 2.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for all persons

having resided within the said borough six months next preceding the election, and being entitled to vote for members of the general assembly, on the first Monday of May in each year hereafter, to meet in one of the rooms of the college in the said borough, and then and there elect, by ballot, between the hours of 12 and 6 o'clock in the evening, one reputable citizen, residing therein, who shall be styled the burgess of the borough, and five reputable citizens to be a town council and shall also elect a high constable; but previous to the opening of any such election the said inhabitants shall elect three reputable citizens, one of whom shall preside as judge, one to act as inspector and the other to perform the duty of a clerk, according to the directions of the general election laws of this commonwealth (so far as relates to receiving and counting votes and shall be subject to the same penalties for mal-practice as by the said election laws are imposed); and the said judge, inspector and clerk before they enter on the exercise of their respective duties, shall take an oath or affirmation before any justice of the peace of the county of Washington to perform the same with fidelity, and shall hold the said election from time to time, as occasion shall require, receive and count the ballots, and declare the persons having the greatest number of votes to be duly elected; whereupon duplicate certificates thereof shall be signed by the said judge, inspector and clerk, one of which shall be transmitted to each of the persons elected, and the other filed among the records of the corporation, for their safe keeping, and in case of vacancy by death, resignation, refusal to accept, or removal from the said borough of any of said officers, the burgess, or in his absence or inability to act, the first named of the town council, shall issue his precept, directed to the high constable, requiring him to hold an election to fill such vacancy, by giving at least ten days previous notice, by advertisements set up at four of the most public places within the said borough.

SECTION 3.—And be it further enacted by the au-

thority aforesaid, That the burgess and town council, duly elected as aforesaid, and their successors forever hereafter, shall be one body politic and corporate in law, by the name of "The burgess and town council of the borough of Canonsburgh in the county of Washington" and shall have perpetual succession; and the said burgess and town council aforesaid and their successors forever, hereafter shall be capable in law, to have, get, receive, hold and possess, lands, tenements, rents, liberties, jurisdictions, franchises and hereditaments, to them and their successors, in fee simple or otherwise, also goods, chattels and other things, of what nature or kind soever, not exceeding the yearly value of three thousand dollars, and also to give, grant, let, sell and assign the same lands, tenements, hereditaments, rents, goods and chattels, and by the name aforesaid, they shall be capable in law, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any of the courts of this commonwealth, in all manner of actions whatsoever, and to have and use one common seal and the same, from time to time, at their will, to change and alter.

SECTION 4.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person duly qualified to elect and be elected, whether the burgess or a member of the town council as aforesaid, having been notified as before directed, shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself the execution of the office to which he shall have been elected, every person so refusing or neglecting, shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty dollars, which fine, and all other fines and forfeitures incurred and made payable in pursuance of this act, or of the bye-laws and ordinances of the town council, shall be for the use of the said corporation.

SECTION 5.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the burgess, town council, and high constable, and each of them, shall take an oath or affirmation before any of the judges or justices of the peace for the

county of Washington, to support the constitution of the United States and of this state, and well and truly to execute the duties of their respective offices in the borough of Canonsburgh, before they shall enter on the execution thereof, and the certificate of such oath or affirmation shall be recorded in the books of the said corporation.

SECTION 6.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the town council to meet as often as occasion may require, and may appoint a town clerk, and such other officers as may be necessary to regulate the digging and gathering of coal, in the coal banks adjacent to the said town, by the inhabitants thereof, in such manner that the private rights of individuals be not injured or impaired, and manage the concerns of the coal banks, so far as the right of the inhabitants of said borough extends to the same; for repairing the streets, lanes and alleys, and for removing nuisances and obstructions therefrom; for regulating partition walls and fences; to enact such bye-laws, and make such rules, ordinances and regulations; assess, apportion and appropriate such taxes as shall be thought by a majority of the town council best calculated to promote the foregoing purposes, and to do every matter and thing incident to, and for the good of the said borough, for the preservation of peace and good government within the same, which bye-laws, rules, ordinances and regulations shall not be repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States or of this state, and the same to revoke and annul, alter and make anew, as occasion may require; but no person shall be punishable for any breach of the bye-laws, rules, ordinances and regulations, unless after the passing of an ordinance, the same be set up on the market-house, and on two other of the most public places within the said borough; and no bye-law or ordinance shall have any effect sooner than three weeks after such publication; Provided nevertheless, That no tax shall

be laid in any one year, on the valuation of taxable property, exceeding one cent in the dollar, unless some object of general utility should be thought necessary; in such case a majority of the taxable inhabitants of said town, by writing, under their hands, shall certify the same to the town council, who shall proceed to asses the same, as before directed.

SECTION 7.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the burgess elect, agreeably to the directions of this act, is hereby authorized and empowered to issue his precept to the high constable, commanding him to collect all taxes assessed from time to time, as aforesaid, and all fines and forfeitures that may become due by this act, or by the ordinances or regulations of the corporation, and the same to pay over to the treasurer to be appointed by the town council, and to carry into effect whatsoever is enjoined on him for the well ordering and good government of the said borough; Provided nevertheless, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the justices of the peace of said borough, and all and every the justice or justices of the peace aforesaid, residing or being in the said borough, to do and execute every act or acts, as pertaining to their office, agreeably to the powers conferred on them by the constitution of the commonwealth.

SECTION 8.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the burgess shall be, and is hereby required to cause the bye-laws, rules, ordinances and regulations, made as aforesaid, to be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose; and he shall carry the same into full execution, without delay, after the publication thereof, as directed by the sixth section of this act: And it shall be the duty of the town clerk to attend all meetings of the town council, when assembled on business of the corporation, and perform the duties of clerk thereto, and keep and preserve the common seal, records, papers, books and other documents relating to said corporation, under the penalty of being an-

swerable to any person concerned, for all damages, and of removal from office by the burgess, on complaint of a majority of the Council; and the high constable shall perform all duties on him enjoined by this act and the bye-laws and the ordinances of the town council, under the like penalties and manner of removal: Provided always, That if any person shall think himself or herself aggrieved by anything done in pursuance of this act, he or she may appeal to the next court of quarter sessions to be holden for the county of Washington, he or she giving surety, according to law, to prosecute his or her appeal with effect, which court shall take such order therein, as shall be just and reasonable, and which order or judgment shall be conclusive to all parties.

SECTION 9.—And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing contained in an act of the general assembly entitled "An Act for opening, better amending and keeping in repair the public roads and highways within this province" passed in the year of our Lord, 1772, shall be deemed, construed or taken to extend to the public roads, streets, lanes or alleys within the said borough, or to the assessing the inhabitants thereof, for the purpose therein mentioned, or to any matter or thing to be done or performed therein.

ISAAC WEAVER, JUNIOR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SAMUEL MACLAY,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved: February the twenty-second, 1802.

THOMAS MCKEAN,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

P. L. 1802, page 66.

In consequence of the foregoing Act of Incorporation, an election for officers was held on the 3rd day of May, 1802. Wm. Clarke, Judge; A. Murdock, Inspector; Samuel Miller,

Clerk. On counting the votes it appeared that Samuel Murdock, Esq., was duly elected burgess. And also that William Clarke, Thomas Briceland, Wm. White, John Johnson and John Watson, Esq., were duly elected members of Council for the Borough of Canonsburg.

And also John McGill was duly elected High Constable. A notice of each of their elections being, according to law, served on them, the burgess and members of Council appeared and took their respective oaths of office according to law.

Appendix "B"

In order that the reader may be able to locate his ancestors in and about Canonsburg, I have added as an appendix, the duplicates of assessment of the Borough of Canonsburg for the years 1802 and 1804, showing the amounts assesed against each piece of property.

For a like purpose I also add the return of Election of Justices of the Peace for Cecil Township for the year 1788, as Appendix C. The return of Election of Justices of the Peace for Strabane Township for the same year as Appendix D, and a like return for Chartiers Township for the year 1790 as Appendix E.

Borough of Canonsburg, June 1, 1802, Council met and proceeded to hold the appeal. Charles Herron for himself appealed but could not show any cause for reduction. Likewise, Edward Williams, no cause, also Elizabeth Andrews, no cause.

Therefore a duplicate of Assessment as followeth was made out and given to the constable for collection.

	Valuation	Assessment
Darr & Ogle,	2,400.00	24.00
Alex'r Ogle,	50.00	.50
James Murdock,	340.00	3.40
John Watson,	360.00	3.60
John Speer,	10.00	.10

	Valuation	Assessment
Craig Ritchie,	610.00	6.10
William Clarke,	336.00	3.36
F. Irwin,	336.00	3.36
John McDowell,	400.00	4.00
Isaac Hezlet,	70.00	.70
Henry Westbay,	865.00	8.65
Sam'l Neill,	300.00	3.00
Benj'n Brown,	50.00	.50
Andrew Munro,	230.00	2.30
Murdock & Johnson,	800.00	8.00
John Johnson,	220.00	2.20
Sam'l Murdock,	220.00	2.20
Reynolds Neill,	410.00	4.10
And'w Munro,	1,205.00	12.10
Widow Carson,	418.00	4.18
Rev. J. Watson,	365.00	3.65
Jas. Cunningham,	10.00	.10
Jos. Pentecost,	266.00	2.66
George McCook,	20.00	.20
Wm. McLaughlin,	200.00	2.00
Geo. Munro,	10.00	.10
H. & Witherspoons,	420.00	4.20
David Wilson,	220.00	2.20
Sam'l Taggart,	286.00	2.86
Joshua Canon,	240.00	2 40
John Murphy,	285.00	2.85
Eph'm Jones.	200.00	2.00
Dan'l McGill,	70.00	.70
Wm. Hays,	240.00	2.40
Jas. Philops,	10.00	.10
Jas. Wilson,	266.00	2.66
Ross McNeill,	10.00	.10
Wm. Greer,	133.00	1.33
Jas. Smith,	40.00	.40
Wm. McCawl,	250.00	2.50
Gilbert McAfee,	85.00	.85
Nath'n Andrews,	25.00	.25
Eliza. Andrews,	70.00	.70
John Steen,	70.00	.70
David Andrews,	125.00	1.25
Jennett Brown,	30.00	.30

	Valuation	Assessment
Wm. Hays,	300.00	3.00
Geo. Land,	250.00	2.50
Robt. McCurdy,	140.00	1.40
Mrs. Mercer,	110.00	1.10
Wm. Wick,	130.00	1.30
Jas. Donelson,	10.00	.10
Thos. Speers,	260.00	2.60
John McFarland,	80.00	.80
Wm. & Josh'a Canon,	60.00	.60
Wm. White,	520.00	5.20
Alex'r Boyd,	50.00	.50
Wm. Irwin,	200.00	2.00
John Lowery,	20.00	.20
Mary Whiteside,	60.00	.60
Nath'l White,	300.00	3.00
Jas. Foster,	350.00	3.50
Wm. Hertupee,	60.00	.60
Christ Musser,	20.00	.20
Jas. Smith,	100.00	1.00
M. Miles,	10.00	.10
Mary Hill,	228.00	2.28
Ann Christy,	40.00	.40
Math'w Hall,	10.00	.10
Jas. Patterson,	225.00	2.25
Alex. Cook,	120.00	1.20
Jas. Black,	200.00	2.00
Geo. Potter,	80.00	.80
T. Briceland,	377.00	3.77
Chas. Herron,	210.00	2.10
Jno. McGill,	60.00	.60
Jas. Briceland,	120.00	1.20
Ed'd Williams,	100.00	1.00
John Smith,	370.00	3.70
F. W. Hillard,	300.00	3.00
Sam'l Murdock,	120.00	1.20
Jas. Balantine,	52.00	.52
Widow Donnel,	50.00	.50
Widow Murdoch,	70.00	.70
Sam'l Miller,	120.00	1.20
		$123.53

Borough of Canonsburg, 4th June, 1802. The town Council met. Wm. Clarke, Thos. Briceland, John Johnson and John Watson present.

Resolved that the taxes for the present year be proportioned at One Cent upon each Dollar of the value of the yearly property of the inhabitants of the Borough—provided that if, in the course of the year there will not be occasion to expend so much of the said sum, then no more shall be collected than merely what will be required, but of this the Burgess shall be the sole Judge, and the Burgess is hereby directed to issue his warrant to the Constable to colect the above sum.

Treasurer's Account from May, 1802, to May, 1803:

Treasurer of the Borough to Tax levied May, 1802, Dr.	$123.53

Cr.

By cash paid Thomas Speers as clerk	$ 4.00
" Supervisor's Acct. as settled	76.91½
" Alex. Boid's Amt. remitted	.50
" cash paid James Patterson for digging a drain	1.10
" ditto paid John McGill Const. fees for collection	7.50
By Ballance remaining in the treasury	25.51½
By cash paid G. McAfee for digging and Bridging a drain at the coal bank	8.00
	$123.53

Valuation for the year 1804.

	Valuation	Assessment
Alexander Murdock, Esq.,	$2,300.00	$ 11.50
James Murdock,	240.00	1.20
John Watson,	450.00	2.25
Rev. Mr. Dunlap,	500.00	2.50
Craig Ritchie, Esq.,	700.00	3.50
John Lowrey, for Francis Irwin's House,	400.00	2.00
John Lowrey,	20.00	.20

	Valuation	Assessment
Jane Hazelet, for J. McDowell's House,	450.00	2.25
Jane Hazelet.	80.00	.40
Henry Westbay,	1,050.00	5.25
Robert Bowland,	300.00	1.50
Sam'l Murdock, Esq.,	300.00	1.50
Murdock, for Johnson (Brick House),	750.00	3.75
Reynold Neill, Two Houses,	800.00	4.00
Andrew Munro Nailor,	250.00	1.25
Andrew Munro, Esq.,	1,300.00	6.50
Geo. McCook, for J. Pentecost's House,	266.00	1.33
Geo. McCook,	40.00	.20
John Roberts, for His House and Field,	450.00	2.25
John Roberts, for 18 Acres Bottom,	400.00	2.00
John Roberts, for the Red House,	200.00	1.00
Creditors of Jas. Dobbin,	100.00	.50
Sam'l Reed,	70.00	.35
Witherspoon & Hanna,	500.00	2.50
David Wilson,	350.00	1.75
Jno. Murphy,	400.00	2.00
Sam'l Taggart,	300.00	1.50
William Greer's House,	100.00	.50
Dan'l McGill,	300.00	1.50
James Patterson, for Hays Property,	500.00	2.50
Ephraim Jones,	200.00	1.00
Wm. Hays, for where J. Carson lives,	200.00	1.00
John McGill, for Horse-mill lot,	300.00	1.50
William McCall,	300.00	1.50
James Patterson,	250.00	1.25
David Andrews,	125.00	.62½
Betsy Andrews,	70.00	.35
Jeany Brown,	25.00	.12½
James Briceland,	150.00	1.25
Gilbert McAfee,	150.00	1.25
Geo. Land,	300.00	1.50
William Marshall, for R. McCurdy,	140.00	1.20
Colwell, Studt.,	200.00	1.00
Emmery, for Weeks' House,	130.00	.65
John McFarland,	120.00	.60
Jno. Mercer, for Speers and the Still House,	250.00	1.25
Mrs. Donnell,	50.00	.25
Jas. Ballentine,	100.00	.50
Jas. Donaldson,	120.00	.60

	Valuation	Assessment
Walter Emerv.	200.00	1.00
Anne Christy,	50.00	.25
William White,	500.00	2.50
William Tanner,	200.00	1.00
William Hartuppe,	400.00	2.00
Ch. Musser,	20.00	.10
Mrs. Murdock, Widow,	80.00	.40
Thos. Briceland,	400.00	2.00
Charles Herron,	200.00	1.00
Mrs. Carson,	500.00	2.50
Nath'l White,	300.00	1.50
Mrs. Hill,	228.00	1.14
Jno. McGill, for Ground near Ballentines,	75.00	.37½
Geo. Munroe,	10.00	.05
Geo. Hall, for Brue-house Lot,	100.00	.50
J. Cochran, Dr.,	50.00	.25

Appendix "C"

Election of Justices of the Peace for Cecil Township, September 12, 1788.

William Long,	Inspector.
James McLaughlin,	Asst. Judge.
John Struthers,	Asst. Judge.
James Parker,	Constable.

Return.

John Reed	had 67 votes.
Craig Ritchie	" 47 "
Matthew McConnell	" 37 "
Presly Neville,	" 35 "
Thomas Bracken	" 31 "
Isaac Weaver	" 17 "
James Colvin	" 9 "

List of Voters

Matthew Henderson
Samuel May
John May
David Reed
Samuel Alexander
Alex. McConnel
George Frazzer
William Mitchel
Robert Porter
Isaac Weaver
Alex. McAlister
Daniel Welsh, Sen.
Robert Miller
Nicholas Gouriel
William Black
Ephraim Harrid
William Calhoun
Thomas Frazzer
James Reed
John Kibinson
Josiah Gamble
Samuel McBribe
George McCullough
John Boys
Daniel Welsh, Jun.
Matt. Johnson
Henry Grey
Robert Ralston
James McNary
John Wilkinson
Thos. McDowel
Daniel South
Edward Cheere
Moses Maddlesent
John McAde
James Gaston
John Lindsly
Henry Robinson
James Martin
William Donnelly
Thomas Merchant
Kenneth McKinzey
James Sprowl
Adam Hickman
William Brice
Thomas Alexander
Jacob Morison
Thos. Ormond
Jas. Dinsmore
James Garret
Thos. Short
William Rowley
James Miller
Alex. Coulter
John Reed
John Orous
Thos. Ramsey
Andrew Ritchey
David Goult
John Wilson
Robert Parks
Robert Wilson
James Parks
William Long
Christopher Leout
Alex. Smith
Hugh Patten
George Dixon
James Kirkpatrick
James Colvin
John Armstrong
John Reed, Capt.
John Neilson
Richard Boys
Jonathan Hervin
Andrew Monroe
Robt. Bowland
John Todd
William Norris
Peter Kerns
John Orr
John Hays
John Dounald
John Larrimore
Alex. Shrither
Robt. Hays
Samuel Logan
William Hays
Thos. Struthers
James Parker
John Tanneyhill
Robt. Hill
Robt. Agnew
John Laughling
James Little
William Speer
John Struthers, Sen.
Abram Dehever
Robt. Stevenson
James McElrey
Wm. Marshel
James Morison

James Goult
Richard Coulter
John Hunter
Wm. McLaughlin
Gavin Morrison
Wm. Atcheson
Cambbel
Abram Grimes
Prestley Neville
Robert Guthrey
Robert Montgomery
Robert Hammond
Matth. Ritchy
Wm. Dunlap
Robt. McAferson
John Anderson
Creigh Ritchey
Joseph Brown
Samuel Brown
Robt. Miller
George McComb
James McClellon
Thomas Brecken
Robert Bootman
Patrick Dougles
Daniel Comron
Wm. Wood
Thos. Reed
John Struthers, Jun.
Henry Donald
Matth. McConnel

Appendix "D"

Election of Justices of the Peace for Strabane Township, September 13, 1788.

James McCready,	Inspector.
James Brice,	Asst. Judge.
Samuel Riddle,	Asst. Judge.
John Cotton,	Constable.

Return.

Henry Taylor	had 64 votes.
John McDowell	" 26 "
Robert Stogdon	" 21 "
Josiah Scott	" 10 "
James McCready	" 10 "
John Wright	" 10 "

List of Voters.

Thomas Scott
Absolam Beard
James Wilson
Thomas Stokely
Jacob Hook
Andrew Swearingin
James Taggert
William Hoge
William G. Jordan
Nathaniel White
John Adams
Henry Holmes
John White
James Hanna
Robert Doke
William Laughlin
William Norris
Moses McWhertor

Alexander Fulton	Samuel Hanna
Richard Dickinson	Henry Cotton
Samuel Bready	Hugh Wilie
Timothy Spencer	Isaac Leet
Hugh Workman	William Stewart
John Stewart	Thos Nickels
Samuel White	John McMillen
John McLean	Samuel Stewart
Matthew Marklin	William Montgomery
Charles Donald	Robert McBratney
Joseph Scott	William Johnston
Thomas Woodward	James Steel
Nicholas Veneman	Thomas Hamilton
Hugh Means	John Smith
Nicholas Pees	James Huston
William Huston	Lowdwick Smith
David Bradford	John Mundle
Richard Yeats	James Chambers
James Roney	Samuel Silix
John Urie	John Wright
Henry Woods	Frances Cunningham
James Buchanan	Creig Ritchie
George Veneman	Thomas Stockdon
David Snodan	Patrick Derby
William Thompson	Robert Hamilton
John Beckert	John Cotton
William Sherrit	John Sutherland
James Ross	James Howlet
James Wilson	Henry Taylor
Zekiel Barnet	William Marklin
Nicholas Little	Joshua Anderson
George White	Samuel Biddle
David Riddle	James Brice
Thomas McNeary	James McCready
Alexander Beer	Josiah Hains

Joseph Biddle

Appendix "E"

Election of Justices of the Peace for Chartiers Township, March 25, 1790.

David Gault,	Inspector.
Joseph Porter,	Asst. Judge.
James McClellan,	Asst. Judge.
Samuel May,	Constable.

Return.

John Canon	had 39 votes.
Samuel Agnew	" 34 "

List of Voters.

Matthew Johnson
Chas. Campbell
John Hays
John Stephenson
Alex. Smith
John Paul
Samuel Hanah
James Merchant
Wm. Spiers
Andrew Ruple
George Stephenson
George McColough
James McElroy
John Boyce
Thos. Laughlin
Wm. Sinclear
Nathl, Tanehil
Robt. Paul
Geyan Wallace
Robert Henry
George Wallace
Hugh McNight
Alex. Castles
John Cannon
Andn. Munors
John Todd
Wm. Marshel
Jas. Gutry
Andw. Ritchie
John Robinson
James Sheerer
Angus McCoy
Thos. Merchant
James Gault
Thomas Struthers
John McCole
John Struthers, Jun.
Thos. Ramsey
Hanea McClelland
James Manary
Thos. McDowel
Robert Porter
Robert McClusky
James Morison
Robert Gutry
James Miller
Joseph Thomson
Moses Thomson
Daniel McCoy
Alex. Struthers
Abm. Dehavin
Thos. Hews
William Sheerer
Isaac Weaver, Jun.
Hugh Patten
Craig Ritchie
Robert Montgomery
James McClelland
Daniel Gott
Joseph Porter
George McComb
Peter Kerns
John Lindsay
Robt. Welsh
Wm. Hays
David Hamon
Samuel Egnew
Robert Hamon
Robert Hews
David Shearer

INDEX

A

Academies and log college in Western Pennsylvania .. 126
Academy at Pequea 127
" of Rev. Samuel Finley 127
Act of Incorporation of Canonsburg Borough..... 163
Agnew, Samuel, mention of 159
Allison, James, mention of 142, 143, 146, 148, 152
Arnot, Dan, mention of 86
Associate Presbyterians 86
" Reformed Presbyterians 86

B

Ballentine, Hugh, mention of 23
Barcus, Daniel, mention of 114
Bausman, Jacob, Ferry of 108-144
Bayard, Col., Stephen, founder of Elizabeth 109
Bears 72
Birds and bees, absence of 75
Black, John E., mention of 23, 76
Blackmore, Nathaniel, mention of 140
Blair, Rev. John, mention of 126
Bouquet, Col., mention of 106
Bowland, Robert, mention of 148
Bowman, Jacob, mention of 112
Boys, John, mention of 146
Braddocks road 111
Bradford, Dr., mention of 154
Breckenridge, H. H., mention of 126
Briceland, Thomas, one of the first councilmen 17
Brown, John, mention of 76
Brown, Dr. Matthew, mention of 77-84
Brown, Dr. Matthew, occupation tax of 23
Brown, Moses, mention of 86
Brownsville, mention of 106
Butler, Mr. attack upon by Michael Cresap 136
Bunting, Redding, mention of 115-116

C

Canon, Col. John, builder of the stone college 67
" " " road view by 128
" " " first mention of 11
" " " appointed justice of the Peace by Lord Dunmore 12, 75
" " " takes oath of allegiance to Virginia 12
" " " appointed sub-lieutenant 13-53
" " " furnishes rations to the Militia.... 13, 14, 66
" " " Representative to the Sup. Ex. Council 12
" " " elected Justice of the Court of Common Pleas 14
" " " signs call for Militia to meet at Braddock's Field 14
" " " appointed attorney in fact by George Washington 15, 55
" " " entertains George Washington 16-149
" " " donated lot to Canonsburg Academy 15, 67, 156
" " " as a conveyancer 16
" " " date of his death 57-154
" " " names of his children 16, 154
" " " his influence as a politician 28, 55, 65, 66
" " " as a man of affairs 65
" " " present at the opening of the U. S. Mail 15
" " " ear marks for cattle of 140
" " " mention of 140
" " " location of his mill 54, 143
" " " attempts to have the county seat located at Canonsburg 144
" " " Protest against 144
" " " agreement with purchasers of lots .. 147
" " " fac simile of one of his deeds..... Appendix
" " " fac simile of power of attorney given him by George Washington, Appendix.
" " " as an advocate of Virginia titles ... 55
" " " his ancestry, little known of 52
Canonsburg, first plot of 146
" when laid out 16-146
" when incorporated 16-159

Canonsburg, act of incorporation of 163
" first Burgess and Council of 17
" Academy, account of the opening of 149
" Borough tax duplicate for 1802 169
" Borough tax duplicate for 1804 172
Cabins of the early settlers, how built 73-4
Cameron, Donald, mention of 148
Campbell, Alexander, mention of 152
Carpenter, Christopher, ferry of 108
Catfish Camp (Washington) mention of 107, 140, 141
Cecil Township, names of voters for Justices of the Peace in 1788 174
Chambers, Wm. B., Report to Council 4
Chanceferd Congregation, reference to 127
Chartiers Creek, declared a navigable stream 28
" " evidence that it was navigated 54-155
Chartiers Township, election for Justices of the Peace of 177
Charters (Hill) Church, mention of 158
Chartee Settlement, early mention of 134
" " party from, joins Dr. Connolly ... 136
" " attempt to locate 138
" " road views to 140-143
Clarke, Wm., reference to 154-155
" " one of the first council 17
Clay, Henry, reference to 112
Coal Bank, right of inhabitants to get coal.....19, 20, 147, 160
Coal, prices of 23
Committee of Safety, inhabitants formed into 22
Connolly, Dr. John, letter of to Dunmore 136
Cotton, Hugh, mention of 146
Council, open meeting called 3
Councilmen, pay of 18
Councilmen, how attendance secured 20
Crawford, Capt. William, mention of 137
Creigh, Alfred, quotation from history of 107
Cresap, Col. Thomas, reference to 106
Cresap, Capt. Michael, reference to 53, 136
Cressay, Michael, ferry of 108
Cumberland road 112

D

Day, Sherman, quotation from 112
Deeds, reference to those of Canon 16
De Haven, Abraham, mention of 148
Devore, James, ferry of 108, 110, 140, 145
Dill, Thomas, mention of 74
Dodd, John, mention of 146
Doddridge, Dr. Joseph, mention of 129-152
Doddridge, Phillip, mention of 152
Donaldson, James, mention of 154
Dunlevy, James, mention of 152

E

Edgar, James, reference to 13, 128-142
Edgerton, Thomas, reference to 140
Election of Councilmen, where held 16
Elizabeth, oldest town in Allegheny County ....., 109
Emery, Joshua, reference to 21
Emery, Boyd, reference to 23
Emigrants, where they came from 69
Emigration of Pilgrims and Puritans 67
Evans, David 132
Ewing, Blaine, first address of 11
" " second address of 119
" " portrait of 120

F

Faggs, Manor, reference to 126
Fee, David H., address of 26
Ferries, enumeration of 108
Fire engine procured 24
First settlers, where they came from 68
Folk lore, absence of chroniclers of 82
Fooks, Paul, reference to 132
Forbes road, reference to 111
Forts, when occupied 71
Fort Stanwix, treaty of 130
Frazer, John, mention of 85
Froman, Paul, mill of, mention of..... 139, 140, 141
" " mill of 139
" Solomon, mention of 140

G

Gallatin, Albert, reference to 112
Gault, David, reference to 148
Gibson, Rev. complaint of 21
Giffin, Andrew H., builder public school 24
Gist, Thomas, mention of 106-140
Greer. Jerrard, mention of 154

H

Hamilton, Alexander, motive of, in Western Pennsylvania Insurrection 57
Hamilton, Robert, unique punishment of 141
Hamilton, David. reference to 27
Hannastown, reference to 135
Harrison, Robert, reference to 132
Hayden, John, mention of 112
Hartuppe, Wm., mention of 17
Hays, John, mention of 159
Heath, Henry, ferry of 108
Henderson. Rev. Matthew, mention of 29-150
Henderson, Ebenzer, mention of 152
Heirlooms, absence of, accounted for 68
Hogs 18-160
Hollidaysburg, mention of 105
Hornish, Squire, mention of 77

I

Innis, James, mention of 140-142

J

Jefferson College, distinctive characteristics of 83
" " its teachers compared 84
" " account of the founding of 149
" " John Canon's part in it 58
Johnston, Henry, mention of 143
Johnston, David, mention of 150
Johnston, John, one of the first councilmen 17

K

Kerr, William, mention of 105
Kittanning path, mention of 152

L

Lambing, Rev. A. A., address of 101
Lambing, Rev. A. A., portrait of facing page 102
Land, Johnny, mention of 77
Leatherman, Dr., occupation tax of 23
Ledlie, Joshua, mention of 154
Leet, David, appointed sub-lieutenant 13
Leet, Isaac, mention of 146
Leet, Jonathan, mention of 146
Little, Nicholas, mention of 159
Linden, town of, mention of 12
Logan, James, mention of 125
Lot owners, names of, on first plot of Canonsburg..... 148
Lot owners, names of, in 1795 153
Lynn, William, ferry of 107

Mc

McClelland, James, occupation tax of 23
McCook, Dr. H. C., mention of 82
McCoy, Daniel, mention of 148
McCready, James, mention of 146
McDowell, John, purchases land for Dr. McMillan 138
McDowell, John, tenders the oath of allegiance 141
McDowell, John, mention of 150
McFadden, Hector, location of his house 22
McKeesport, ferry at 109
McKee, David, mention of 109
McLain, Daniel, mention of 152
McMillan, Dr. John, first missionary journey 128
McMillan, Dr. John, deed to 138
McMillan, Dr. John, reference to 150
McNary, Thomas, reference to 159

M

Market House, ordinance for protection of 19
Market House, removal of old and vote to rebuild 21-22
Market days fixed 19
Marshal, William, mention of 148
Marshel, Col. James 55
Martin, John H., occupation tax of 23

Merchant, Thomas, mention of 154
Mercer, William, mention of 155
Miles, Manasha, mention of 20
Miller, Rev. D. R., Centennial Ode of 89
Monongalia County formed 141
Morgan, Doctor, mention of 139
Morganza, mention of 82-132
Morrison, James, mention of 148
Munn, John, mention of 140, 141, 142
Munel, John, mention of 146
Munro, Andrew, (Nailer) 17, 23
Munroe, Andrew, (tavern keeper) 23, 148
Murdock, Dr. Samuel, mention of 17, 21
Murdock, Alexander, mention of 21
Mounte-banks, prohibition against 18

N

Names of taxables in Canonsburg in 1802 169
Names of taxables in Canonsburg in 1804 172
Names of voters present at election of Justices of the Peace for Cecil Township in 1788 174
Names of voters present at election of Justices of the Peace for Strabane Township in 1788 176
Names of voters present at election of Justices of the Peace for Chartiers Township for 1790 177
National Road, reference to 112
Neville, John, reference to 56
Neill, Reynolds C., mention of 24
Nemacolin's path 105

O

Ohio County formed 141

P

Parade, composition of, on June 26th, 1902 47
Parkeson, David, mention of 146
Parkinson, James, mention of 110
" John, mention of 109
" Joseph, mention of 23
Parkinson's Ferry, mention of 109-110

Patterson, Rev. Robert, mention of 149
Patterson, Rev. Robert. Portrait of .....
" " " his account of the founding of Jefferson College 149
Patterson, Robert, reference to..... 85
Paramour, John, mention of 143
Peas, Nicholas, mention of 142
Paxton, Rev. John R., mention of 36
" " " " address of 63
" " " " portrait of facing page 64
Penn, Governor, proclamation against settlers 131
" " opens land office 132
Pentecost, Dorsey, mention of 56, 136, 139, 152
Pequea Academy, mention of 126
Phillips, David, mention of 142, 143
Pilgrims, mention of 67-68
Pioneers, habits and customs of 68, 69, 71
Pittsburg Gazette, quotation from 152
" compared with Brownsville 27
Play actors and puppet shows, prohibiton against 18
Pollock, Samuel, mention of 146
Presbyterianism, the stronghold of 122
Presbyterians, antipathy of, to the Quakers 133
" different sects of 86
Preston, William, mention of 132
Putnam, Rufus, mention of 108

Q

Quakers, reference to religious belief of..... 133

R

Ramsey, Dr., mention of 87
Rankin, Thomas, mention of 143
Red Stone, mention of 110
Red Stone Creek, mention of 106
Read, John, mention of 142
Reed, David, mention of 159
Reese, Thomas, reply of 60
Revivals, reference to, in Canonsburg 87
Riddle, Rev. M. B., address of 79

Riddle, Rev. M. B. portrait of 70
" William, mention of 149, 150, 152
Ritchie, Craig, mention of 21, 23, 146, 148
Ritchie, Col. Matthew, mention of 148
Roads, from Gists to Paul Froman's Mill on Chartiers 140
" early petition for, to Chartiers settlements 134
" from Froman's Mill to Froman's Mill 140
" from Catfish Camp to Providence Mounce's Mill 140
" from Pentecost's Mill to forks of Yough 142
" from John Canon's Mill to Pittsburg 143-144
For plot of same see appendix.
Roads, from John Canon's Mill to Washington 144, 145
" enumeration of roads in Washington County in 1784 145
" Braddock's 111
" Forbes 111
" Cumberland or National Pike 112
Robbstown, mention of 108
Roosevelt, Theodore, quotation from 122
Ross, James, mention of 127

S

Salt, as an article of commerce 14, 66
Searight, Thomas B. quotation from 112, 115
School, grant of land for subscription school 21
School house, the English, mention of 150
Scotch-Irish, Character of 69, 70, 162
" their colonization in Ireland 124
" their colonization in Pennsylvania 125
" and Quakers 133
" a tribute to 123
Scott, Abraham, mention of 152
" James, mention of 142
" Thomas, mention of 12
Seceders, The, mention of 86
Shannon, Samuel, mention of 139
Shurtee Settlement, see Chartee Settlement .....
Shurtee's Creek, mentioned by Washington 16
Simpson, Jeremiah, mention of 159
Sinclair, Samuel, ferry of 108
Singhorse, Abraham, mention of 20

Smiley, Rev. W. B., address of 7
Smith, Deveraux, letter of 137
" Joseph, mention of 127
" Dr. William, mention of 85
Snodgrass, James, mention of 152
Snyder, Prof., mention of 85
Southwark, mention of 110
Speer, Joseph, letter of, to St. Clair 136
Speer, Thomas, mention of 161
State Ridge, mention of 127
Stevenson, Dr., mention of 23
Stewart, Hon. Andrew, mention of 112
Stocks, erection of, in the borough 18
Stockton, Lucius, mention of 115
Stone College, vote to buy for site of Public School .. 24
Streets, grading and stoning of 23
Swearingen, Andrew, mention of 141
" Thomas, mention of 152

T

Taverns, time of closing regulated 18
Tax Levy in Canonsburg 161
Tax Levy in Canonsburg, names of taxables for 1802.. 169
Tax Levy in Canonsburg, names of taxables for 1804.. 172
Thomas, Michael, mention of 138
Thompson, Dr., mention of 148
Todd, John, mention of 148

U

Ulster, Province of 125
" names of counties and area of 125

V

Van Eman, Garret, mention of 142
" " Andrew, mention of 22
Virginians, mention of 135-136

W

Washington, Pa., reference to 145, 150
" George, visits John Canon 16, 65
" " power of Attorney to John Canon. See appendix.
Washington, George, his opinion of Canon 16

W 95

Watson, John, mention of 17, 21, 23
West Augusta, District of, abolished 141
Westbay, Henry, tavern of 15
West Newton, mention of ...., 108
West Nottingham 127
Westmoreland County, established 134
Wilson, David, mention of 17
White, Wm., one of the first councilmen 17
White, Nathaniel, mention of 146
White, John, mention of 146-159
Williams, Evan, mention of 142
" Samuel, mention of 85
Wilmington, (Del.) landing place of the Scotch-Irish 126
Witherspoon, Samuel, mention of 154
Wolves 72
Work, Rev. J. M., address of 36
Wylie, Wm., mention of 152

Y

Yeates, Richard, mention of 142
Yohogania County formed 141

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 014 313 211 0